THE FLOWERS OF MODERN TRAVELS;

BEING

ELEGANT, ENTERTAINING, AND INSTRUCTIVE

EXTRACTS,

SELECTED FROM THE WORKS OF

THE MOST CELEBRATED TRAVELLERS.

VOL. II.

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SUCH AS

LORD LYTTLETON, SIR W. HAMILTON, BARON DE TOTT, DR. JOHNSON, DR. MOORE, DR. TROIL, ADDISON, BRYDONE, COXE, WRAXALL, SAVARY, TOPHAM, SHERLOCK, DOUGLAS, SWINBURNE, LADY M. W. MONTAGUE, &c. &c.

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THE

THE

FLOWERS

OF

MODERN TRAVELS.

SECTION LVI.

OF THE CHARACTER AND MANNERS OF THE VENETIANS.

I AM very ſenſible, that it requires a longer reſidence at Venice, and better opportunities than I have had, to enable me to give a character of the Venetians. But were I to form an idea of them from what I have ſeen, I ſhould paint them as a lively ingenious people, extravagantly fond of public amuſements, with an uncommon reliſh for humour, and yet more attached to the real enjoy-

ments of life, than to thoſe which depend on oſtentation, and proceed from vanity.

The common people of Venice diſplay ſome qualities very rarely to be found in that ſphere of life, being remarkably ſober, obliging to ſtrangers, and gentle in their intercourſe with each other. The Venetians in general are tall and well made. Though equally robuſt, they are not ſo corpulent as the Germans. The latter alſo are of fair complexions, with light grey, or blue eyes; whereas the Venetians are for the moſt part of a ruddy brown colour, with dark eyes. You meet in the ſtreets of Venice many fine manly countenances, reſembling thoſe tranſmitted to us by the pencils of Paul Veroneſe and Titian. The women are of a fine ſtile of countenance, with expreſſive features, and a ſkin of rich carnation. They dreſs their hair in a fanciful manner, which becomes them very much. They are of an eaſy addreſs, and have no averſion to cultivating an acquaintance with thoſe ſtrangers who are preſented to them by their relations, or have been properly recommended.

Strangers are under leſs reſtraint here, in many particulars, than the native inhabitants. I have known ſome, who, after having tried moſt of the capitals of Europe, have preferred to live at Venice on account of the variety of amuſements, the

gentle

gentle manners of the inhabitants, and the perfect freedom allowed in every thing, except in blaming the meaſures of government. When a ſtranger is ſo imprudent as to declaim againſt the form or the meaſures of government, he will either receive a meſſage to leave the territories of the ſtate, or one of the Sbirri will be ſent to accompany him to the Pope's or the Emperor's dominions.

The houſes are thought inconvenient by many of the Engliſh. They are better calculated, however, for the climate of Italy, than if they were built according to the London model, which, I ſuppoſe, is the plan thoſe critics approve. The floors are of a red plaiſter, with a brilliant gloſſy ſurface, much more beautiful than wood, and far preferable in caſe of fire, whoſe progreſs they are calculated to check.

The principal apartments are on the ſecond floor. The Venetians ſeldom inhabit the firſt, which is often entirely filled with lumber. Perhaps they prefer the ſecond, becauſe it is fartheſt removed from the moiſture of the lakes; or perhaps they prefer it becauſe it is better lighted and more chearful: or they may have ſome better reaſon for this preference than I am acquainted with, or can imagine.

Though the inhabitants of Great Britain make uſe of the firſt floors for their chief apartments, this does not form a complete demonſtration that the Venetians are in the wrong for preferring the ſecond. When an acute ſenſible people univerſally follow one cuſtom, in a mere matter of convenience, however abſurd that cuſtom may appear in the eyes of a ſtranger at firſt ſight, it will generally be found, that there is ſome real advantage in it, which compenſates all the apparent inconveniencies. Of this, travellers who do not hurry with too much rapidity through the countries they viſit, are very ſenſible. For, after having had time to weigh every circumſtance, they often ſee reaſon to approve what they had formerly condemned. Cuſtom and faſhion have the greateſt influence on our taſte of beauty, or excellence of every kind. What from a variety of cauſes has become the ſtandard in one country, is ſometimes juſt the contrary in another. The ſame thing that makes a low-brimmed hat appear genteel at one time, and ridiculous at another, has made a different ſpecies of verſification be accounted the model of perfection in old Rome and modern Italy, at Paris, or at London. In matters of taſte, particularly in dramatic poetry, the prejudices which each particular nation acquires in favour of its own, are difficult to be removed.

moved. People ſeldom obtain ſuch a perfect knowledge of a foreign language and foreign manners, as to underſtand all the niceties of the one and the alluſions to the other. In conſequence of this, many things are inſipid to them, for which a native may have a high reliſh.

The dialogues in rhime of the French plays, appear unnatural and abſurd to Engliſhmen, when they firſt attend the French theatre; yet thoſe who have remained long in France, and acquired a more perfect knowledge of the language, aſſure us, that without rhime the dignity of the tragic muſe cannot be ſupported; and that, even in comedy, they produce an additional elegance, which overbalances every objection. The French language being more ſtudied and better underſtood by the Engliſh, than our language is by the French nation, we find many of our countrymen who reliſh the beauties, and pay the juſt tribute of admiration to the genius of Corneille, while there is ſcarcely a ſingle Frenchman to be found, who has any idea of the merit of Shakeſpeare.

Without being juſtly accuſed of partiality, I may aſſert, that in this inſtance the Engliſh diſplay a fairneſs and liberality of ſentiment ſuperior to the French. The irregularities of Shakeſpeare's drama are obvious to every eye, and would, in the

preſent age, be avoided by a poet not poſſeſſed of an hundredth part of his genius. His peculiar beauties, on the other hand, are of an excellence which has not, perhaps, been attained by any poet of any age or country. Yet the French critics, from Voltaire down to the pooreſt ſcribbler in the literary journals, all ſtop at the former, declaim on the barbarous taſte of the Engliſh nation, inſiſt on the groteſque abſurdity of the poet's imagination, and illuſtrate both by partial extracts of the moſt exceptionable ſcenes of Shakeſpeare's plays.

When a whole people, with that degree of judgment which even the enemies of the Britiſh nation allow them to have, unite in the higheſt admiration of one man, and continue, for ages, to behold his pieces with unfated delight, it might occur to thoſe Frenchmen, that there poſſibly was ſome excellence in the works of this poet, though they could not ſee it; and a very moderate ſhare of candour might have taught them, that it would be more becoming to ſpare their ridicule till they acquired a little more knowledge of the author againſt whom it is pointed.

An incident which occurred ſince my arrival at Venice, though founded on a prejudice much more excuſable than the conduct of the critics above-mentioned, has brought home to my conviction the

the raſhneſs of thoſe who form opinions, without the knowledge requiſite to direct their judgment.

I had got, I don't know how, the moſt contemptuous opinion of the Italian drama. I had been told, there was not a tolerable actor at preſent in Italy; and I had been long taught to conſider their comedy as the moſt deſpicable ſtuff in the world, which could not amuſe, or even draw a ſmile from any perſon of taſte, being quite deſtitute of true humour, full of ribaldry, and only proper for the meaneſt of the vulgar. Impreſſed with theſe ſentiments, I went with a party to the ſtage-box of one of the playhouſes the very day of our arrival at Venice.

The piece was a comedy, and the moſt entertaining character in it was that of a man who ſtuttered. In this defect, and in the ſingular grimaces with which the actor accompanied it, conſiſted a great part of the amuſement.

Diſguſted at ſuch a pitiful ſubſtitution for wit and humour, I expreſſed a contempt for an audience which could be entertained by ſuch buffoonery, and who could take pleaſure in the exhibition of a natural infirmity.

While we inwardly indulged ſentiments of ſelf-approbation, on account of the refinement and ſuperiority of our own taſte, and ſupported the

dignity of thoſe ſentiments by a diſdainful gravity of countenance, the Stutterer was giving a piece of information to Harlequin, which greatly intereſted him, and to which he liſtened with every mark of eagerneſs. This unfortunate ſpeaker had juſt arrived at the moſt important part of his narrative, which was, to acquaint the impatient liſtener where his miſtreſs was concealed, when he unluckily ſtumbled on a word of ſix or ſeven ſyllables, which completely obſtructed the progreſs of his narration. He attempted it again and again, but always without ſucceſs. Though many other words might explain the meaning equally well, it is as eaſy to make a ſaint change his religion, as prevail on a ſtutterer to accept of another word in place of that at which he has ſtumbled. He adheres to his firſt word to the laſt, and will ſooner expire with it in his throat, than give it up for any other you may offer. Harlequin, on the preſent occaſion, preſented his friend with a dozen, but he rejected them all with diſdain, and perſiſted in his unſucceſsful attempts on that which had firſt come in his way. At length, making a deſperate effort, when all the ſpectators were gaping in expectation of his ſafe delivery, the cruel word came up with its broad-ſide foremoſt, and ſtuck directly acroſs the unhappy man's wind-pipe. He gaped, and panted,

panted, and croaked; his face flushed, and his eyes seemed ready to start from his head. Harlequin unbuttoned the Stutterer's waistcoat, and the neck of his shirt; he fanned his face with his cap, and held a bottle of hartshorn to his nose. At length, fearing his patient would expire before he could give the desired intelligence, in a fit of despair he pitched his head full in the dying man's stomach, and the word bolted out of his mouth to the most distant part of the house.

This was performed in a manner so perfectly droll, and the humorous absurdity of the expedient came so unexpectedly upon me, that I immediately burst into a most excessive fit of laughter, in which I was accompanied by my friends; and our laughter continued in such loud, violent, and repeated fits, that the attention of the audience being turned from the stage to our box, occasioned a renewal of the mirth all over the playhouse with greater vociferation than at first.

When we returned to the inn I was asked, if I were as much convinced as ever, that a man must be perfectly devoid of taste who could condescend to laugh at an Italian comedy?

DR. MOORE.

SECT. LVII.

OF THE SITUATION OF VENICE, ITS CANALS AND BRIDGES.

THE view of Venice, at ſome little diſtance from the town, is mentioned by many travellers in terms of the higheſt admiration. I had been ſo often forewarned of the amazement with which I ſhould be ſtruck at the firſt ſight of this city, that when I actually did ſee it, I felt little or no amazement at all. You will behold, ſaid thoſe anticipators, a magnificent town; or more frequently, to make the deeper impreſſion, they gave it in detail: —You will behold, ſaid they, magnificent palaces, churches, towers and ſteeples, all ſtanding in the middle of the ſea. Well, this unqueſtionably is an uncommon ſcene; and there is no manner of doubt that a town, ſurrounded by water, is a very fine ſight; but all the travellers that have exiſted ſince the days of Cain, will not convince me, that a town, ſurrounded by land, is not a much finer. Can there be any compariſon, in point of beauty, between the dull monotony of a watery ſurface, and

and the delightful variety of gardens, meadows, hills, and woods?

If the ſituation of Venice renders it leſs agreeable than another city, to behold at a diſtance, it muſt render it, in a much ſtronger degree, leſs agreeable to inhabit. For you will pleaſe to recollect, that, inſtead of walking or riding in the fields, and enjoying the fragrance of herbs, and the melody of birds; when you wiſh to take the air here, you muſt ſubmit to be paddled about from morning to night, in a narrow boat, along dirty canals; or, if you don't like this, you have one reſource more, which is, that of walking in St. Mark's Place.

Theſe are the diſadvantages which Venice labours under, with regard to ſituation; but it has other peculiarities, which, in the opinion of many, overbalance them, and render it, on the whole, an agreeable town.

Venice is ſaid to be built in the ſea; that is, it is built in the midſt of ſhallows which ſtretch ſome miles from the ſhore, at the bottom of the Adriatic Gulph. Though thoſe ſhallows, being now all covered with water, have the appearance of one great lake, yet they are called Lagune, or lakes, becauſe formerly, as it is imagined, there were ſeveral. On ſailing on the Laguna, and looking to the bottom, many large hollows are to be ſeen,

which, at ſome former period have, very poſſibly, been diſtinct lakes, though now, being all covered with a common ſurface of water, they form one large lake, of unequal depth. The intervals between thoſe hollows, it is ſuppoſed, were little iſlands, and are now ſhallows, which, at ebb, are all within reach of a pole.

When you approach the city, you come along a liquid road, marked by rows of ſtakes on each ſide, which direct veſſels, of a certain burthen, to avoid the ſhallows, and keep in deeper water. Theſe ſhallows are a better defence to the city than the ſtrongeſt fortifications. On the approach of an enemy's fleet, the Venetians have only to pull up their ſtakes, and the enemy can advance no farther. They are equally beyond the inſult of a land army, even in the midſt of winter; for the flux and reflux of the ſea, and the mildneſs of the climate, prevent ſuch a ſtrength of ice as could admit the approach of an army that way.

The lake in which Venice ſtands, is a kind of ſmall inner gulph, ſeparated from the large one by ſome iſlands, at a few miles diſtance. Theſe iſlands, in a great meaſure, break the force of the Adriatic ſtorms, before they reach the Laguna; yet, in very high winds, the navigation of the lake is dangerous to gondolas, and ſometimes the gondoleers do

do not truſt themſelves, even on the canals within the city! This is not ſo great an inconveniency to the inhabitants, as you may imagine; becauſe moſt of the houſes have one door opening upon a canal, and another communicating with the ſtreet; by means of which, and of the bridges, you can go to almoſt any part of the town by land, as well as by water.

The number of inhabitants are computed at 150,000; the ſtreets in general are narrow; ſo are the canals, except the grand canal, which is very broad, and has a ſerpentine courſe through the middle of the city. They tell you, there are ſeveral hundred bridges in Venice. What paſs under this name, however, are ſingle arches thrown over the canals; moſt of them paltry enough.

The Rialto conſiſts alſo of a ſingle arch, but a very noble one, and of marble. It is built acroſs the grand canal, near the middle, where it is narroweſt. This celebrated arch is ninety feet wide on the level of the canal, and twenty-four feet high. Its beauty is impaired by two rows of booths, or ſhops, which are erected upon it, and divide its upper ſurface into three narrow ſtreets. The view from the Rialto is equally lively and magnificent. The objects under your eye are the grand canal, covered with boats and gondolas, and

flanked on each ſide with magnificent palaces, churches, and ſpires; but this fine proſpect is almoſt the only one in Venice; for, except the grand canal, and the canal Regio, all the others are narrow and mean; ſome of them have no keys; the water literally waſhes the walls of the houſes. When you ſail along thoſe wretched canals, you have no one agreeable object to cheer the ſight; and the ſmell is overwhelmed with the ſtench which, at certain ſeaſons, exhales from the water.

DR. MOORE.

SECT. LVIII.

OF VARIOUS NATURAL BEAUTIES IN WALES.

ON our journey we paſſed through Ludlow, a fine, handſome town, which has an old caſtle, now in a neglected and ruinous ſtate; but which, by its remains, appears to have been once a very ſtrong fortreſs, and an habitation very ſuitable to the power and dignity of the Lord Preſident of Wales, who reſided there. Not far from this town is Okely park, belonging to Lord Powis, and part of that foreſt which Milton, in his maſque,

maſque, ſuppoſes to have been inhabited by Comus and his rout. The god is now vanquiſhed; but, at the revolution of every ſeven years, his rout does not fail to keep up orgies there, and in the neighbouring town; as Lord Powis knows to his coſt, for he has ſpent twenty or thirty thouſand pounds in entertaining them at theſe ſeaſons; which is the reaſon that he has no houſe at this place fit for him to live in. He talks of building one in the park, and the ſituation deſerves it; for there are many ſcenes, which not only Comus, but the lady of Milton's maſque, would have taken delight in, if they had received the improvements they are capable of from a man of good taſte; but they are as yet very rude and neglected. In our way from hence to Montgomery, we paſſed through a country very romantic and pleaſant, in many ſpots; in which we ſaw farms ſo well ſituated, that they appeared to us more delightful ſituations than Clermont or Burleigh. At laſt we came by a gentleman's houſe, on the ſide of a hill opening to a ſweet valley; which ſeemed to be built in a taſte much ſuperior to that of a mere country eſquire. We therefore ſtopt and deſired to ſee it, which curioſity was well paid for. We found it the neateſt and beſt houſe of a moderate ſize, that ever we ſaw. The maſter, it ſeems, was bred to the law, but

quitted

quitted the profeſſion about fifteen years ago, and retired into the country upon an eſtate of five hundred pounds per annum, with a wife and four children; notwithſtanding which incumbrances, he found means to fit up the houſe in the manner we ſaw it, with remarkable elegance, and to plant all the hill about him with groves and clumps of trees, that, together with an admirable proſpect ſeen from it, render it a place which a monarch might envy. But, to let you ſee how vulgar minds value ſuch improvement, I muſt tell you an anſwer made by our guide, who was ſervant to Lord Powis's ſteward, and ſpoke, I preſume, the ſenſe of his maſter, upon our expreſſing ſome wonder that this gentleman had been able to do ſo much with ſo ſmall a fortune; "I do not, ſaid he, know how it is, but he is always doing ſome nonſenſe or other." I apprehend, moſt of my neighbours would give the ſame account of my improvements at Hagley.

Montgomery town is no better than a village; and all that remains of an old caſtle there, is about a third part of a ruinous tower: but nothing can be finer than the ſituation of it and the proſpect. It muſt have been exceedingly ſtrong in ancient times, and able to reſiſt all the forces of the Welſh; to bridle them it was built in the reign of William Rufus;

Rufus; three ſides of it are a precipice quite inacceſſible, guarded with a deep and broad ditch! I was ſorry that more of ſo noble a caſtle did not remain, but glad to think, that, by our incorporating union with the Welſh, this and many others, which have been erected to ſecure the neighbouring counties of England againſt their incurſions, or to maintain our ſovereignty over that fierce and warlike people, are now become uſeleſs.

From hence we travelled with infinite pleaſure (through the moſt charming country my eyes ever beheld, or my imagination can paint) to Powis caſtle, part of which was burnt down about thirty years ago; but there are ſtill remains of a great houſe, ſituated ſo finely, and ſo nobly, that, were I in the place of Lord Powis, I ſhould forſake Okely park, with all its beauties, and fix my ſeat as near there, as the moſt eligible in every reſpect. About three thouſand pounds laid out upon it, would make it the moſt auguſt place in the kingdom. It ſtands upon the ſide of a very high hill; below lies a vale of incomparable beauty, with the Severn winding through it, and the town of Welſh-Pool, terminated with high mountains. The oppoſite ſide is beautifully cultivated half way up, and green to the top, except in one or two hills, whoſe ſummits are rocky, and of groteſque ſhapes, that give

variety

variety and ſpirit to the proſpect. Above the caſtle is a long ridge of hills finely ſhaded, part of which is the park; and ſtill higher is a terrace, up to which you are led through very fine lawns, from whence you have a view that exceeds all deſcription.

The county of Montgomery, which lies within this view, is to my eyes the moſt beautiful in South Britain; and though I have not been in Scotland, I cannot believe I ſhall find any place there ſuperior, or equal, to it; becauſe the highlands are all uncultivated, and the lowlands want wood; whereas this country is admirably ſhaded with hedgerows. It has a lovely mixture of corn fields and meadows, though more of the latter. The vales and bottoms are large, and the mountains, that riſe like a rampart all around, add a magnificence and grandeur to the ſcene, without giving you any horror or dreadful ideas, becauſe at Powis caſtle they appear at ſuch a diſtance as not to deſtroy the beauty and ſoftneſs of the country between them. There are indeed ſome high hills within that incloſure, but being woody and green, they make a more pleaſing variety, and take off nothing from the proſpect. The caſtle has an old-faſhioned garden juſt under it, which a few alterations might make very pretty; for there is a command of water and wood in it,

which

which may be ſo managed as to produce all the beauties that art can add to what liberal nature has ſo laviſhly done for this place.

We went from thence to ſee Peſtill Rhaider, a famous caſcade; but it did not quite anſwer my expectations, for though the fall is ſo high, the ſtream is but narrow, and it wants the complement of wood, the water falling like a ſpout on an even deſcent, down the middle of a wide naked rock, without any breaks to ſcatter the water. Upon the whole, it gave me but little pleaſure.

After having ſeen the Velino, we lay that night at the houſe of a gentleman, who had the care of Lord Powis's lead mines; it ſtands in a valley, which ſeems the abode of quiet and ſecurity, ſurrounded with very high mountains on all ſides; but in itſelf airy, ſoft, and agreeable. If a man was diſpoſed to forget the world, and be forgotten by it, he could not find a more proper place. In ſome of thoſe mountains are veins of lead ore, which have been ſo rich as to produce in time paſt twenty thouſand pounds per annum, to the old Duke of Powis, but they are not near ſo valuable now. Perhaps you will object, that the idea of wealth dug up in this place does not conſiſt with that of retirement. I agree it does not; but, all the wealth being hid under ground, the eye ſees nothing there but peace and tranquillity.

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The next morning we aſcended the mountain of Berwin, one of the higheſt in Wales; and when we came to the top of it, a proſpect opened to us, which ſtruck the mind with awful aſtoniſhment. Nature is in all her majeſty there; but it is the majeſty of a tyrant, frowning over the ruins and deſolation of a country. The enormous mountains, or rather rocks, of Merionethſhire incloſed us all around. There is not upon theſe mountains a tree or ſhrub, or a blade of graſs; nor did we ſee any marks of habitations or culture in the whole place. Between them is a ſolitude fit for Deſpair to inhabit; whereas all we had ſeen before in Wales ſeemed formed to inſpire the meditations of love. We were ſome hours in croſſing this deſart, and then had the view of a fine woody vale, but narrow and deep, through which a rivulet ran as clear and rapid as the Scotch burns, winding in very agreeable forms, with a very pretty caſcade. On the edge of this valley we travelled on foot, for the ſteepneſs of the road would not allow us to ride without ſome danger; and in about half an hour we came to a more open country, though ſtill incloſed with hills, in which we ſaw the town of Bala with its beautiful lake. The town is ſmall and ill-built; but the lake is a fine object. It is about three miles in length, and one in breadth;

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the water of it is clear, and of a bright ſilver colour. The river Dee runs through very rich meadows; at the other end are towering high mountains; on the ſides are graſſy hills, but not ſo well wooded as I could wiſh them to be. There is alſo a bridge of ſtone built over the river, and a gentleman's houſe which embelliſhes the proſpect. But what Bala is moſt famous for is the beauty of its women; and indeed I there ſaw ſome of the prettieſt girls I ever beheld. The lake produces very fine trout, and a fiſh called *whiting*, peculiar to itſelf, and of a very delicate taſte.

After we left the banks of the lake, where we had an agreeable day, we got again into the deſart; but leſs horrid than I have already deſcribed, the vale being more fertile, and feeding ſome cattle. Nothing remarkable occurred in our ride, until we came to Feſtiniog, a village in Merionethſhire, the vale before which is the moſt perfectly beautiful of all we had ſeen. From the heighth of this village you have a view of the ſea. The hills are green, and well ſhaded with wood. There is a lovely rivulet, which winds through the bottom; on each ſide are meadows, and above are corn fields along the ſides of the hills; at each end are high mountains, which ſeemed placed there to guard this charming retreat againſt any invaders. With the

woman

woman one loves, with the friend of one's heart, and a good ſtudy of books, one might paſs an age there, and think it a day. If one has a mind to live long and renew his youth, let him come and ſettle at Feſtiniog. Not long ago there died in that neighbourhood an honeſt Welch farmer, who was 105 years of age; by his firſt wife he had 30 children, 10 by his ſecond, and 4 by his third; his youngeſt ſon was 81 years younger than his eldeſt, and 800 perſons deſcended from his body attended his funeral.

When we had ſkirted this happy vale an hour or two, we came to a narrow branch of the ſea, which is dry at low water. As we paſſed over the ſands, we were ſurpriſed to ſee that all the cattle preferred that barren place to the meadows. The guide ſaid it was to avoid a fly, which in the heat of the day came out of the woods, and infeſted them in the valleys. The view of the ſaid ſands is terrible, as they are hemmed in on each ſide with very high hills, but broken into a thouſand irregular ſhapes. At one end is the ocean, at the other the formidable mountains of Snowdon, black and naked rocks, which ſeemed to be piled one above another. The ſummits of ſome of them are covered with clouds, and cannot be aſcended. They do altogether ſtrongly excite the idea of

Burnet,

Burnet, of their being the fragment of a demoliſhed world.

In the evening we rode along the ſea coaſt, which is here very cold. The grandeur of the ocean, correſponding with that of the mountain, formed a majeſtic and ſolemn ſcene; ideas of immenſity ſwelled and exalted our minds at the ſight; all leſſer objects appeared mean and trifling, ſo that we could hardly do juſtice to the ruins of an old caſtle, ſituated upon the top of a conical hill, the foot of which is waſhed by the ſea, and which has every feature that can give a romantic appearance.

Next morning being fair, we ventured to climb up to the top of a mountain, not indeed ſo high as Snowdon, which is here called *Moel Guidon*, that is, the neſt of the eagle; but one degree lower than that called *Moel Happock*, the neſt of the hawk; from whence we ſaw a phænomenon, new to our eyes, but common in Wales; on the one ſide was midnight, on the other bright day. The whole extent of the mountain of Snowdon, on our left hand, was wrapped in clouds, from top to bottom; but on the right the ſun ſhone moſt glorioufly over the the ſea-coaſt of Carnarvon. The hill we ſtood upon was perfectly clear, and the way we came up a pretty eaſy aſcent; but before

fore us was a precipice of many hundred yards, and below, a vale, which though not cultivated, has much ſavage beauty; the ſides were ſteep, and fringed with low wood.

There were two little lakes, or rather large pools, that ſtood in the bottom, from which iſſued a rivulet, that ſerpentined in view for two or three miles, and was a pleaſing relief to the eyes.

But the mountains of Snowdon, covered with darkneſs and thick clouds, called to my memory the fall of Mount Sinai, with the laws delivered from it, and filled my mind with religious awe.

LORD LYTTLETON.

SECT. LIX.

OF CARNARVON, AND THE ISLE OF ANGLESEA.

WHEN I arrived at Carnarvon, I had a very fine view of the ſea, and one of the fineſt towns I had ſeen in England or Wales; the old walls of which, with their towers and bulwarks, are almoſt

moſt entire; they are high and ſtrongly built. The towers are round, and rather more of the Roman than the Gothic form of architecture. At one end they join to the wall of the caſtle, which is a vaſt and noble building, of which the outſide is likewiſe well preſerved, but the inſide is demoliſhed. The people here ſhew the remains of a chamber, where King Edward II. was born, and received the ſubmiſſion of all the nobility in Wales in his cradle. The caſtle itſelf was built by his father, and is indeed a noble work.

As we rode from Carnarvon, the country about was ſoftened into a ſcene of the moſt pleaſing kind, and was rendered more ſo by the contraſt with that from which we came. We travelled along the ſhore of Menai, an arm of the ſea, as broad as the Thames, oppoſite to Lord Duncannon's. Our road led us over fine ſhady lawns, perfumed ſo with honeyſuckles, that they were a *paradiſetto*; and over gentle hills, from whence we had a lovely view of the Menai and the iſle of Angleſea, which lies on the oppoſite ſide of it, and then loſt them again in agreeable valleys, like thoſe of Reading, or the Hertfordſhire vales. We enjoyed theſe ſcenes for ſome miles, till we came to a ferry, by which we paſſed into Angleſea, and landed at the ſeat of Sir Nicholas Bayley, which is the pleaſanteſt

ſpot in the iſland. He has Gotheriſed an old houſe with good judgment and taſte. The view from it is charming. He ſees the ſweet country, through which we had travelled, from Carnarvon to Snowdon above it, which ennobles the proſpect; the Menai winds, in a moſt beautiful manner, juſt under his windows; his woods ſhade the banks of it on each ſide, quite down to the water; above which, intermixed with them, are ever-green lawns, which, if helped with a very little art, would, together with his wood, make a garden or park, of the moſt perfect beauty; but all is yet in a rude and neglected ſtate. From thence we went to Baronhill, the ſeat of Lord Bulkeley, above the town of Beaumaris, in the ſame iſland. It has a view of the ſea, and coaſt of Carnarvon, which is indeed very fine, but I think inferior to that of Lord Edgecombe's, with which I have heard it compared. The houſe is a bad one; the gardens are made in a very fine taſte; but upon the whole, I like it much leſs than Sir N. Bayley's, though the reputation of the former is greater in Wales.

All the reſt of the iſle of Angleſea is a naked and unpleaſant country, without a tree or hedge to be ſeen in it, uncultivated ſtill, from the obſtinacy of the people, in adhering to the ignorance of their forefathers; ſo that I am told it does not produce

produce the tenth part of what the land is capable, if improved by the agriculture of England. From Beaumaris we rode over the lands, at low water to Penman Mawr, a high and rocky mountain, the paſſage over which muſt have been very frightful, before they built a wall along the edge of the wood, which ſecures you from the danger of falling down the precipice that is below it into the ſea; but with this guard it is very agreeable, the proſpect of the ſea and country being very fine.

I never ſaw any thing that ſtruck me more than the firſt view of Conway caſtle, to which we ſoon came after paſſing this mountain. It was built by Edward the Firſt, in much the ſame ſtyle with that of Carnarvon; but ſtronger and more regular. The ſituation is noble, and it ſtands upon a rock of conſiderable heighth; inſtead of a ditch, three ſides of it are defended by an arm of the ſea, and four turrets that riſe above the towers, beſides two others at one end, ſtanding below the others, about the middle of the rock that over-hangs the ſea. The walls between are battlements, and look very ſtrong; they are, in ſome places, fourteen or fifteen feet thick, in none leſs than twelve. The whole together hath the grandeſt appearance of any building I ever beheld, eſpecially as the walls of the town, which are built like thoſe of Carnarvon, but with bolder and handſomer towers,

appear right in one view to the eye with the caſtle, when firſt you approach it. All the outſide remains, except one tower, as in the time of Edward the Firſt; and that was not demoliſhed either with battering engines or with cannons, but by the people of the place taking ſtones from the foundation, for their own uſe, whenever they pleaſed; the conſequence of which was, that the greateſt part of the tower fell into the ſea. But the upper part more ſurpriſingly continues ſtill firm in the form of an arch; and Lord Hertford, the preſent proprietor, hath forbid any dilapidation for the future. We were told, his grandfather would have lived in this caſtle, could he have purchaſed any lands in the country about; but finding none to be ſold, he dropt the deſign.

I wiſh he had purſued it, for then we might have ſeen the inſide entire; a ſight which would have given me a great deal of pleaſure. But now the floors, cielings, and roofs, are all taken away, ſo that we can hardly gueſs at its ancient magnificence. The hall muſt have been a noble room; it is 100 feet long, thirty wide, and thirty high. The roof was ſupported by very beautiful arches, which ſtill remain. There are two chimneys in it, and it was well lighted. The ſtone-work of the windows is exceeding handſome.

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Had our friend Milla (the builder of Hagley houſe) been with us, he would have fallen down and adored the architect. The eight towers ſeem to have contained three very good bed-chambers each, placed one above another, beſides ſome upper rooms. The chambers are eighteen feet diameter, except one called the king's chamber, which has a bow window, gained out of the thickneſs of the wall; and the room is by that means extended about thirty feet. Over the arch of that window are the arms of Edward the Firſt.

From Conway caſtle, we travelled half a day's journey through a very romantic country, to Rudland, or rather Land-caſtle, the remains of which are leſs perfect than Carnarvon or Conway; nor was it ever equal to them, either in extent or beauty, which I am ſorry for, as it was built by Henry the Second.

Not far from hence, at a place called Bodrudan, we paſſed a rainy day in a very comfortable manner, with an old acquaintance of mine, who is the lady of the caſtle, and hath forbid all depredations, which the people of the neighbourhood uſed to make, by taking it down to build and repair their houſes and pigſties, which would have demoliſhed it like the tower of Conway.

The next morning we went to the top of the hill, from whence we had a view of the whole vale of Clwydd, from one end to the other, which is equalled by none in England for fertility and beauty. There is neither mountain nor rock to be ſeen in any part of it. After you turn your back upon Rudland, the hills on one ſide of it riſe very gradually by gentle aſcents. Moſt of them are cultivated quite to their ſummits, others half way up; and when the tops are not encloſed, they are a fine graſſy down, like Clent-hill, and ſhaded and enlivened with wood, like the ſlopes in my park. But yet I prefer the ſcenes in Montgomery-ſhire to this lively vale. There is a great beauty in this, but there is no majeſty. Whereas there, as in the mind of a certain lady, with whom I have the honour to be intimately acquainted, the ſoft and the agreeable is mixed with the noble, the great, and the ſublime.

About the middle of this vale, upon the brow of a hill, ſtands Denbigh caſtle, a very fine ruin; it encloſes as much ground as Conway or Carnarvon, but hath not ſo much building. The towers of it are ſtanding at a very conſiderable diſtance from one another, being fewer in number; but they are in the ſame ſtyle of architecture, having been built in the reign of the ſame king, who

who by theſe ſtrong fortreſſes ſecured to himſelf and his poſterity the dominion of North Wales. The hall is ſtill pretty entire, and rivals that of Conway, except that the roof doth not appear to have been arched.

The towers are all in a ruinous ſtate. I think it a pity and ſhame to the owner, that more care is not taken to preſerve ſuch reſpectable remains of antiquity. When we left the vale of Clwydd, we went into a barren and mountainous country, which continued from Rythin as far as Wrexham.

From Wrexham we went to Wynſtay, the ſeat of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Part of the houſe is old; but he had begun building a new one before his death, in a very good taſte. One wing is finiſhed, and that alone makes a very agreeable houſe. The view from it is the moſt chearful I ever beheld. It ſtands in the middle of a very pretty park, and looks over that to a moſt delightful country. But if the park was extended a little farther, it would take in a hill, with the view of a valley, moſt beautifully wooded; and the river Dee winding in ſo romantic and charming a manner, that I think it exceeds that of Feſtiniog, or any confined proſpect I ever beheld.

Indeed the country, for five or ſix miles, is of another temper, exceedingly fertile, and very romantic. While I was looking at it, I aſked one of my friends, "Whether he thought it poſſible for the eyes to behold a more pleaſing ſight." He ſaid, "Yes; the ſight of a woman one loves." My anſwer was, "When I was in love I thought ſo."

LORD LYTTLETON.

SECT. LX.

A TRAVELLING ANECDOTE AT MACHYNLLETH IN WALES.

MACHYNLLETH lies in a ſmall verdant plain, ſurrounded with mountains. It ſtands in the extreme weſt angle of Montgomeryſhire, and the bridge from the town carried us into Merioneth.

I cannot omit a ridiculous circumſtance which occurred to us at the inn of Machynlleth.

A gentleman of the neighbourhood politely introduced himſelf to us, and hearing we travelled to

to ſatisfy our curioſity, civilly offered to gratify it, as far as he could. It was natural for me, among other things, to enquire about the roads, and the inns. I therefore aſked him, if there were a good houſe at our next ſtage? He anſwered there were many, Mr. Lloyd's, Mr. Powell's, Mr. Edwards's, &c. I ſtill enquired which was the beſt. He replied, they were all very good. But to make him explicit, I perſiſted in aſking him, whether either of them was as proper, as that in which we were? "Sir!" ſaid he, with a peeviſh ſurpriſe, "ſhould you take this houſe for a Gentleman's?"

I quickly explained myſelf, and begged his pardon. We might indeed have travelled through the whole country with a conſtant ſuite of recommendations; and this gentleman preſſed us to accept of his invitation to his hoſpitable friends; but it did not agree with our plan, nor had we reſolution enough to ſacrifice our time to a daily ſucceſſion of jolly company.

Leaving Machynlleth we ſoon found ourſelves in a truly Alpine valley; the rapid torrent roaring over a bed of broken rocks, and now and then interrupted by immenſe fragments, from which it fell in conſiderable cataracts; the woody and exalted precipices on each ſide of the river, and the mountain brooks continually rattling about us,

formed a miniature picture of the romantic road between Aigues belles and mount Cenis. Towards the extremity of this beautiful ſcene, the huge mountain of Cader Idris preſented its naked, craggy and prominent cliff, full to our front. I never ſaw an object more awfully ſublime; it extends more than half a mile in length, and is at leaſt a thouſand feet high.

The road paſſes under part of this gloomy and tremendous precipice, on the right hand, within ſight of a large lake on the left, and cloſe to the brink of a ſmaller. It then croſſes an arm of Cader Idris, and with a quick deſcent of two rocky miles, ends at Dolgelley. Part of this latter path leads through a thin oak wood, which hangs over an impetuous torrent, foaming down a rugged declivity, as ſteep as the road.

The wretched town of Dolgelley is finely ſituated upon the Avon's bank. The vallies around are richly interſperſed with woods and decent houſes, while the mountains bound every proſpect from the town at irregular diſtances.

Cader Idris, from the quickneſs of its aſcent, and the nearneſs of its ſummit, appears much higher than it really is; many people, on this account, have conſidered it as the higheſt mountain in Wales, but Snowdon is indiſputably higher.

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I could learn no intelligence of its real perpendicular elevation; but I ſhould think it muſt be more than half a mile above the level of the river at Dolgelley, which receives the tide at a ſmall diſtance below the town.

There appears ſome ſpirit in the flannel trade in this neighbourhood, which extends its buſy influence for many miles round the country.

About five miles from Dolgelley, (a few large Scotch firs on each ſide of the road marking the ſpot) we turned upwards on our left, to ſee a water-fall behind a ſmall houſe of a widow Vaughan. This cataract is broken into two broad parts; the upper deſcends about thirty-five feet, upon a ſmall craggy ridge, and the lower about twenty feet, into a romantic baſon, encircled with perpendicular or impending rocks. A fine wood ſurrounds it, and ſome of the largeſt trees project their ſhady branches over the precipices of the caſcade.

Returning to the high road, we ſoon croſſed a bridge, under which the torrent rattled from the above caſcade, down a ſteep declivity, and through large disjointed fragments towards the river.

We quitted the valley two miles farther, and aſcended a barren and diſmal mountain. The road continued loneſome and melancholy for ſeveral

miles, but at length conducted us to a comfortable little inn.

My companion's curioſity led him to turn to the right hand from nearly the ſummit of the mountain, which is called Pen-maen, towards the falls of the rivers Mothvaye and Cayne. He found the road exceedingly bad, but his troubleſome ride was amply repaid by the objects in purſuit. The cataracts were very deep, and fell in broad ſheets of water, through a varied ſcenery of woods and rocks.

Theſe remarkable cataracts are each of them the fall of a whole river, and ſituated within a quarter of a mile of one another. That of the Mothvaye forms two very broad ſheets of water, divided about half way down by a ridge in the rock, each part being alſo beautifully broken by frequent crags projecting through it. This whole fall may be about ſeventy or eighty feet in depth.

That of the Cayne is a continued ſteep fall from rock to rock, not near ſo wide as the former, but much higher. I ſhould imagine it muſt be from an hundred and fifty to two hundred feet high, but the bottom is of very difficult acceſs. The ſcenery, which immediately ſurrounds them both, is noble beyond deſcription, producing a fine contraſt to the naked hills in their neighbourhood.

SECT. LXI.

OF DUBLIN, AND THE HOSPITALITY OF THE IRISH. A. D. 1774.

HAVING croſſed St. George's Channel from Liverpool, the moſt proſperous ſea-port town on the weſtern coaſt of England, the firſt land we made was Houth Heath, a point of land about eight miles eaſt of Dublin, forming the north point of its bay, which is about three or four miles wide, and ſix or ſeven deep. The bar of this harbour is very incommodious; but the entrance into the harbour, being at leaſt eight miles from Dublin city, is extremely beautiful and pictureſque, diverſified with hills and promontories on either hand, exhibiting a very ſpacious amphitheatre, bounded by a high ſhore, and ſaid to be exceeded in grandeur by none, except the bay of Naples, to whoſe ſuperiority of view, Mount Veſuvius does not a little contribute. The country all round is ſprinkled with white villas. From the entrance, the light-houſe on the ſouth ſide of the harbour appears to great advantage. At a little diſtance from it is Iriſh Town, (two miles diſtant from Dublin) to which

which place the dyke from that city reaches; and which, when carried on to the extent propoſed, will conſiderably increaſe the quantity of marſh ground alread retrieved from the bay, at the bottom of which the river Liffy diſcharges itſelf.

The city of Dublin is not ſeen to advantage from the water; yet the landſcape upon the whole is highly rich and beautiful, being horizoned in ſome places by mountains, exactly conical, called the Sugar-loaf-hills. I am perſuaded there are many who would not regret a journey thither for this ſingle proſpect, to render which complete, a number of circumſtances are neceſſary, but which can ſeldom concur, ſuch as the ſeaſon of the year, the time of the day, and the clearneſs of the atmoſphere when you enter the bay.

The magnitude of the city of Dublin is much greater than in general imagined, being nearer a fourth than a fifth of that of London. If you view it from any of the towers, it ſeems more; but from walking the ſtreets, you would ſuppoſe it to be leſs. In 1754, there were 12,857 houſes in this city; but in 1766, they were increaſed to 13,194; and are now further augmented to 13,500, which indeed is far ſhort of one fourth of the number of houſes in London; yet there is not ſo great a diſproportion in the number of inhabitants, who

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are ſuppoſed, at a moderate computation, to amount to 160,000. It is nearly circular, about eight miles in circumference. We ſee it to great advantage from any of its ſteeples, the blue ſlate having a very good effect.

The beſt view is from the Phœnix Park, (the Hyde Park of Dublin) but much more extenſive than ours, and would be exquiſitely beautiful if dreſſed and planted; but except ſome thorns and the clumps of elms planted by the late Lord Cheſterfield when he was Lord Lieutenant, there are very few trees upon it. In one part of this park his Lordſhip raiſed a handſome column of free-ſtone, fluted, with a phœnix on the top, iſſuing out of a flame; it has an inſcription on the baſe, importing that he embelliſhed the park at his own expence, for the recreation of the citizens of Dublin; and his name is ſtill held in veneration among them. In this park there is a fort.

The greateſt part of Dublin is very indifferent, but the new ſtreets are as elegant as the modern ſtreets of Weſtminſter. Lately has been added to it an elegant ſquare, called Merryon's ſquare, built in a ſuperb ſtile. Near that is the ſquare called St. Stephen's Green, each ſide being near a quarter of a mile, probably the largeſt in Europe, round which is a gravel-walk of near a mile, where

genteel

genteel company walk in the evenings, and on Sundays after two o'clock. This ſquare has ſome grand houſes, and is in general well built; and although there is a great inequality in the houſes, yet this in ſome reſpect adds to its beauty. In the midſt of it is an equeſtrian ſtatue of George II. in braſs, erected in 1758. The ſituation is chearful, and the buildings around it multiply very faſt. A new ſquare has lately been begun, called Palatine ſquare, near the barracks, a regular fine range of buildings, which, when compleated, will conſiderably add to the growing improvements of this city.

The quays of Dublin are its principal beauty. They lie on each ſide the river Liffy, which is banked and walled in the whole length of the city; and at the breadth of a wide ſtreet from the river on each ſide, the houſes are built fronting each other, which has a good effect. This embankment, when paved, will be ſuperior to any part of London.

The Liffy runs for about two miles almoſt in a ſtraight line through the city. It has five bridges over it; of which Eſſex bridge is the moſt worthy of notice. It conſiſts of five arches of ſtone. The chord of the middle one is forty-eight feet. It was begun in 1753, finiſhed in about a year

and

and a half, and coſt 20,000 guineas. It has raiſed foot-paths, alcoves, and baluſtrades like Weſtminſter-bridge, of a white ſtone, coarſe but hard. It fronts Capel-ſtreet to the north, and Parliament-ſtreet to the ſouth. The length is two hundred and fifty feet, and the breadth much the ſame as that of Weſtminſter. Queen's bridge was rebuilt in 1764, is exceedingly neat, and conſiſts of three elegant arches. The other bridges are not worth mentioning, as they are merely conveniencies to ſave the trouble of ferrying acroſs the river, and defy every order of architecture.

At the end of Eſſex-bridge is the elegant new building of the Exchange, which does honour to the merchants who conducted it, the expence being moſtly defrayed by lotteries. The whole is of white ſtone, richly embelliſhed with ſemi-columns of the Corinthian order, a cupola, and other ornaments, with a ſtatue of his preſent Majeſty George III. erected in 1779.

Near this, on a little eminence, is ſituated the caſtle, the reſidence of the Lord Lieutenant, which conſiſts of two large courts, called the upper and lower caſtle-yard; in the latter of which are the Treaſury, and ſome other public offices. Though there is little grandeur in the outward appearance of either, yet, upon the whole, this caſtle is far

ſuperior

ſuperior to the palace of St. James's, as well in the exterior, as the ſize and the elegance of the apartments within.

Here are two cathedrals, eighteen pariſh churches, beſides ſeveral chapels and meeting-houſes. Neither of the cathedrals are remarkable for their architecture; and as to the pariſh-churches, except on the front of three or four of their ſteeples, external embelliſhments have been little ſtudied. All that ſeems to have been attended to was neatneſs and convenience within; but they are generally deſtitute of every monumental decoration. In the cathedrals only, can be ſeen whatever of the monumental kind is worthy of obſervation.

From the general badneſs of the ſtreets of Dublin, hackney coaches are more frequent in proportion than in London, and ſedan chairs are every where as common as about St. James's.

In the year 1749, it was computed, that in the city and liberties there were two thouſand ale-houſes, three hundred taverns, and twelve thouſand brandy-ſhops. At preſent, in this extenſive place, there are but ſeven or eight coffee-houſes, and they are reſorted to for tea and coffee only, not like thoſe in London, where dinners and ſuppers make a very convenient addition; nor are there above

half

half a dozen chop-houſes; ſuch accommodations being novel in Dublin.

It is very extraordinary, that in this large and populous city, there ſhould be ſuch an almoſt total want of good inns for the entertainment of ſtrangers and travellers. This defect obliges every body, who is acquainted with the place, to get into private lodgings as ſoon as he arrives, or to uſe the hotels lately ſet up; ſome of which are elegant.

During my ſtay here, I was frequently preſented with the picture of a late Touriſt, at the bottom of the chamber-veſſels, with his mouth and eyes open, ready to receive the libation; and on enquiry found, that even the utenſil now is more frequently called by the name of a Twiſs than any other, in contempt of the illiberal reflections of that gentleman, who was ſo hoſpitably received here. Indeed, hoſpitality holds its reſidence here; for it is cuſtomary for almoſt every gentleman, who dines with your friend, to aſk you for a day; nay, they will ſometimes invite the whole company to be of your party. This ſocial cuſtom is ſtill very prevalent, though not ſo much, I am told, as it has been.

With reſpect to drinking, I have been happily diſappointed. The bottle is circulated freely, but not to the exceſs we have heard it was, and I of courſe dreaded to find. Common ſenſe is reſuming her

her empire. The practice of cramming gueſts is already exploded, and that of gorging them is daily loſing ground. Wherever I have yet been, I was always deſired to do juſt as I would chuſe; nay, I have been at ſome tables where the practice of drinking healths at dinner was entirely laid aſide. Let the cuſtom originate whence it may, it is now unneceſſary; in many caſes it is unſeaſonable, and in all ſuperfluous.

The tables of the firſt faſhion are covered juſt as in London; I can ſcarcely ſee any difference, unleſs it be that there is more variety here. Well-bred people, of different countries approach much nearer to each other in their manners, than thoſe who have not ſeen the world. This is viſible in the living of the merchants of London and Dublin. With theſe you never ſee a ſtinted dinner at two o'clock, with a glaſs of port after it; but you find a table, not only plentifully, but luxuriouſly ſpread, with choice of wines, both at dinner and after it; and, which gives the higheſt zeſt to the entertainment, your hoſt receives you with ſuch an appearance of liberality, and indeed urbanity, as is very pleaſing. Here they betray no attention to the counter, diſcover no ſombrous gloom of computation, but diſplay an open frankneſs and ſocial vivacity of ſpirit.

If

If you prefer the men of this country for their hoſpitality, and the women for their beauty, you are likely to live well with them.

In general, the outſkirts of Dublin conſiſt chiefly of huts, or cabins, conſtructed of mud dried, and moſtly without either chimney or window; and in theſe miſerable kind of dwellings, far the greater part of the inhabitants of Ireland linger out a wretched exiſtence. A ſmall piece of ground is generally annexed to each, whoſe chief produce is potatoes; and on theſe roots and milk the common Iriſh ſubſiſt all the year round, without taſting either bread or meat, except perhaps at Chriſtmas once or twice. What little the men can earn by their labour, or the women by their ſpinning, is generally conſumed in whiſky, a ſpirituous liquor reſembling Geneva. Shoes and ſtockings are ſeldom worn by theſe beings, who ſeem to form a different race from the reſt of mankind. Their poverty is far greater than that of the Spaniſh, Portugueſe, or even the Scotch peaſants; notwithſtanding which, they wear the appearance of content.

The indigence of the middling claſs of people is viſible even in Dublin; yet from the moſt attentive and minute enquiries, I am confident, that the produce of this kingdom, either of corn or cattle, is

not

not above two thirds, at moſt, of what by good cultivation it might yield; notwithſtanding which, the landed gentlemen, I believe, make as much, or more of their eſtates, than any in the three kingdoms, while the lands, for equal goodneſs, produce the leaſt. The conſequences of this, with reſpect to the different claſſes are obvious;—the landlords firſt get all that is made of the land, and the tenants, for their labour, get poverty and potatoes.

The roads in Ireland are generally good enough for riding, but by no means equal to the Engliſh roads for a carriage; and though the inns are very far from making the appearance of thoſe in England, yet the Engliſh traveller will univerſally, almoſt, meet with civil uſage, good proviſions, and, for himſelf, clean decent lodging; but an Engliſh horſe, could he ſpeak as well as Balaam's vehicle, would curſe the country, whoſe hay and litter are worſe than can be conceived. Indeed, their oats for the moſt part are tolerably good, excepting two or three counties in the Eaſt of Leinſter, and one or two in Ulſter. Almoſt all the ſtraw produced in the country is put upon their houſes and cabins. The furniture of the ſaddle-horſes alſo, ſuch as ſaddle, bridle, ſtirrups, and crupper, are frequently made all of ſtraw. Sometimes the bridle and ſtirrups are of cord.

The

The high roads throughout the ſouthern and weſtern parts are lined with beggars, who live in huts or cabins, of ſuch ſhocking materials and conſtruction, that in hundreds of them you may ſee the ſmoak aſcending through almoſt every inch of their defenceleſs covering, for ſcarce one in twenty of them has any window or chimney; and through thoſe chaſms, of courſe, the rain muſt make its way to drip upon the half-naked, ſhivering, and almoſt half-ſtarved inhabitants within. Notwithſtanding their ill appearance, a traveller is frequently preſented with boards at the ſide of the cabin door, with "dry lodgings and tobacco;" ſometimes only "good dry lodgings," or "lodgings and ſnuff." As a ſymbol where milk is ſold, they hang out a white rag on a ſtick. Indeed theſe huts ſpoil the figure and appearance of the much greater number of even their largeſt towns in the whole kingdom, whoſe entrances are generally dirty, with long ſtrings of theſe deſpicable hovels, with which moſt of them are prefaced. Into the inland towns eſpecially, you are generally introduced through a line of fifty or an hundred of theſe habitations of poverty and oppreſſion on either hand. Even the metropolis itſelf is not without this diſgraceful deformity, which exhibits the penury and wretchedneſs of the tenants, and the mean

mean ſpiritedneſs of the landlords, who, too generally for their own, or the reputation of their country, impoſe the building houſes on their lands, upon a ſet of people, whoſe abilities will not enable them to build with materials ſo good as thoſe of a ſwallow's neſt; and to the infamy of the proprietors may it be ſaid, that moſt of the farm-houſes in Ireland are conſtructed in this miſerable manner.

TOUR THROUGH IRELAND.

SECT. LXII.

OF THE COMPARATIVE MERIT OF THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH.

"A FRENCHMAN," ſays the Earl of Cheſterfield, "who, with a fund of learning, virtue, and good ſenſe, has the manners and good-breeding of his country, is the perfection of human nature." I am not an enemy to the French; but I do not think this aſſertion true. In my opinion, the following would have been juſter: "An Engliſhman,

man, who joins manners and good-breeding to the ſolidity, energy, and greatneſs of mind which characteriſe his country, is the perfection of human nature." I do not mean to compliment. But ſentiments and actions are upon a more elevated ſcale here than they can be found in any other nation in the world. There are no effects without cauſes; and the cauſes of this are very obvious. We paſs our youth with the Greeks and Romans. Their great examples expand our ſouls; the brightneſs of their actions, and the ſplendour of their principles, kindle the moſt noble paſſions in our minds; and, when we come to be men, the nature of our government feeds this flame, and we glow with a certain internal ardour, which occaſionally breaks out into action, and which is neither known nor comprehended but in the dominions of Britain.

I do juſtice here to my country; and my ſoul feels happy, that I am able to give her, with truth, a ſuperiority over the univerſe in genius and magnanimity. But if from this I ſhall be underſtood to think meanly of the French, becauſe they are the rivals and enemies of this nation, it would indeed be to miſinterpret me much. Though I do not think that people *equal* to this in *greatneſs*, I think them a very great people. And if the Eng-

gliſh are ſuperior to the French in all the more elevated qualities which dignify and ennoble humanity; ſo the French ſurpaſs the Engliſh in all the milder and gentler virtues, which grace and adorn it.

In England the French have few friends. But they have one; and that one am I. They could not, I acknowledge, have a feebler advocate; but while I have a tongue to ſpeak, or a pen to write, wherever I go I'll do them juſtice.

Let every man who knows that nation ſpeak of it as he found it. If he lived in their intimacy for years (as I did), and if he found them ill-natured, ill-mannered, treacherous, and cowardly, let him ſpeak his mind. I quarrel with no man who judges for himſelf, and who ſpeaks the truth. But let the indulgence I grant be granted to me again; and let me be permitted to tell the world, that however other men may have found them, I found them good-humoured, good-natured, brave, poliſhed, frank, and friendly.

"They were my friends, faithful and juſt to me;
"But Brutus ſays they are perfidious;
"And Brutus is an honourable man.
"I ſpeak not to diſprove what Brutus ſpoke;
"But here I am to ſpeak what I do know."

I found

I found them all animated with a deſire to pleaſe, and always ready to do me every ſervice in their power. I owe them a thouſand obligations. I had faults; they corrected them. I wanted knowledge; they informed me. I was rough; they ſoftened me. I was ſick; they viſited me. I was vain; they flattered me. I had need of counſel; they gave me the beſt advice. Every man has need of agreeable company, and every man may be ſure to find it in France.

I could be laviſh in praiſe of this nation; but I am ſorry to ſay, that too many people here have prejudices againſt them, as ridiculous as they are ill-founded. They deſpiſe the French as if they were beings without either ſenſe or ſentiment; though their writings and actions ſhew they are full of both. Becauſe two ſtates have different intereſts, is that a reaſon that every individual belonging to thoſe ſtates ſhould promote, to the utmoſt of his abilities, the intereſt and glory of the country to which he belongs? It certainly is. And therefore, every Frenchman has the ſame merit in labouring with all his might for the deſtruction of the Britiſh fleet, that every Engliſhman has in exerting all his powers to annihilate the navy of France. If a blaſt of my breath could ſend all the ſhips ſhe has to the bottom of the ſea—puff—they

were ſunk before you could finiſh this period. But is it a reaſon I ſhould hate or deſpiſe the French, becauſe I am naturally and neceſſarily the enemy of France?

The beſt way I think to judge this matter is, to take two other rival nations; Auſtria and Pruſſia; Athens and Sparta. Here you are diſpaſſionate; your judgment will be juſt. Do you think it the duty of a liberal-minded Pruſſian to deſpiſe an Auſtrian? Or, ſhould a well-born Athenian deteſt a Lacedæmonian, becauſe he is equally animated by the ſame noble flame that warms himſelf—the love of his country? The nation which is able to rival another, proves herſelf worthy the admiration of that nation, even by her rivalry; and had I no other reaſon to conſider the French as a great people, beſide their being able to contend with England, that proof for me would be ſufficient.

But the French are perfidious *in politics*. I deny that they *can* be perfidious with the Engliſh. They may be treacherous, for aught I know, with the Auſtrians and the Spaniards. There they profeſs friendſhip. They are of the ſame religion, frequently intermarry, and have frequent alliances. With England France has no connection. She may over-reach her in politics, but ſhe never can deceive her by perfidy; becauſe ſhe is her uniform

ſorm enemy. There is not an infant that does not know, that France ever was, and ever will be, the enemy of England. The making a peace is not making a friendſhip; and the French will not be more the friends of England when this peace is made, than they were five years before the war began, or than they are now. The rivalry between the two nations will laſt while the nations laſt. They are *littora littoribus contraria*, oppoſite in every thing. It is the duty of France to depreſs England as much as ſhe can. It is the duty of England to keep down France as much as is in her power. It is the duty of both to do juſtice to the other. This juſtice the French *do* render the Engliſh. I am ſorry I cannot ſay the Engliſh do the ſame by them. Every claſs of men in France praiſe the people of this country: ſome the ſolidity of their underſtanding, and the extent of their genius; others the energy and vigour of their character; many their magnanimity and benevolence; and all, their courage and good faith. While here——but I bluſh for numbers, and am aſhamed to finiſh my period.

SHERLOCK.

SECT. LXIII.

CHARACTER OF THE FRENCH LADIES, COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE ENGLISH.

WOMEN are a ſubject upon which ſo much has been ſaid and written by ſo many men of abilities, that it is not eaſy to imagine a new light, in which they have not been already placed. But, talking of a nation, if one did not ſay ſomething about ſo conſiderable a part of it, the ſubject muſt appear mutilated and imperfect.

As brevity is the ſoul of wit, I ſhall be brief; and I ſhall only touch on the principal points in which the women of France differ from thoſe of other countries.

When a French lady comes into a room, the firſt thing that ſtrikes you is, that ſhe walks better, holds herſelf better, has her head and feet better dreſſed, her cloaths better fancied, and better put on, than any woman you have ever ſeen.

When ſhe talks, ſhe is the part of pleaſing perſonified. Her eyes, her lips, her words, her geſtures, are all prepoſſeſſing. Her language is the

language

language of amiableneſs; her accents are the accents of grace. She embelliſhes a trifle; ſhe intereſts upon a nothing; ſhe ſoftens a contradiction; ſhe takes off the inſipidneſs of a compliment, by turning it elegantly; and when ſhe has a mind, ſhe ſharpens and poliſhes the point of an epigram better than all the women in the world.

Her eyes ſparkle with ſpirit; the moſt delightful ſallies flaſh from her fancy; in telling a ſtory ſhe is inimitable; the motions of her body, and the accents of her tongue, are equally genteel and eaſy; an equable flow of ſoftened ſprightlineſs keeps her conſtantly good-humoured and chearful; and the only objects of her life are to pleaſe, and to be pleaſed.

Her vivacity may *ſometimes* approach to folly; but perhaps it is not in her moments of folly ſhe is leaſt intereſting and agreeable. Engliſh women have many points of ſuperiority over the French; the French are ſuperior to them in many others. I have mentioned ſome of thoſe points in other places. Here I ſhall only ſay, there is a particular idea in which no woman in the world can compare with a French-woman; it is in the power of *intellectual irritation.* She will draw wit out of a fool. She ſtrikes with ſuch addreſs the cords of ſelf-love, that ſhe gives unexpected vigour and agi-

lity to fancy; and electrifies a body that appeared non-electric.

I have mentioned here the women of England; and I have done wrong. I did not intend it when I began the letter. They came into my mind as the only women in the world worthy of being compared with thoſe of France. To ſettle the reſpective claims of the fair ſex in thoſe two countries, requires an abler pen than mine. I ſhall not dare to examine it even in a ſingle point; nor preſume to determine whether, in the important article of beauty, form and colour are to be preferred to expreſſion and grace; or whether grace and expreſſion are to be conſidered as preferable to complexion and ſhape. I ſhall not examine whether the *piquant* of France is to be thought ſuperior to the *touchant* of England; or whether deep ſenſibility deſerves to be preferred to animation and wit. So important a ſubject requires a volume. I ſhall only venture to give a trait. If a goddeſs could be ſuppoſed to be formed, compounded of Juno and Minerva, that goddeſs would be the emblem of this country. Venus, as ſhe is, with all her amiableneſſes and imperfections, may ſtand, juſtly enough, for an emblem of French women. I have decided the queſtion without intending it; for I have given the preference to the women of England.

One

One point I had forgotten; and it is a material one. It is not to be diſputed on; for what I am going to write is the opinion and ſentiment of the univerſe. The Engliſh women are the beſt wives under heaven——and ſhame be on the men who make them bad huſbands.

SHERLOCK.

SECT. LXIV.

OF MONTPELIER IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE. A. D. 1775.

MONTPELIER is a delightful place of reſidence. I ſtaid there four days, and left it with exceſſive regret. The town itſelf is by no means beautiful, the ſtreets being almoſt all narrow, winding, and badly laid out; but nature ſeems to have choſen the hill on which it ſtands, to enrich with her choiceſt favours. The aſcent is eaſy and gradual on every ſide; and the ſtates of Languedoc have ornamented the ſummit of it at a vaſt expence, in a manner where taſte and magnificence are equally blended.

The proſpect from this happy ſpot I cannot deſcribe, though I ſtudied it every day with an enthuſiaſtic pleaſure. Raphael's pencil, or that of Lorraine, might paint it, but not even Shakeſpeare's powers of deſcription could do juſtice to its beauties. The vales of Languedoc, covered with olives, or laid out in vineyards, are finely contraſted with rude rocks to the north, and melt away into the ſea to the ſouth. Though winter has almoſt ſtripped the trees of their verdure, there is nothing melancholy or deſart which preſents itſelf to the eye. A ſky ſerene and unclouded, an invigorating ſun, a keen and wholeſome air ſpread a gaiety over November itſelf, which here is neither accompanied with fogs or rain. Montpelier has notwithſtanding loſt, within theſe laſt thirty years, that reputation for ſalubrity which conduces more to the ſupport of a place, than any real advantages it may poſſeſs; and the number of ſtrangers who viſit it from motives of health diminiſhes annually. Some trade is ſtill carried on from thence by a ſmall river called the Les, which empties itſelf into the ſea at the diſtance of a league; but the Mediterranean has been retiring theſe three centuries from the whole coaſt of Languedoc and Provence. Frejus, which is ſituated between Toulon and Antibes, where the Emperor Auguſtus laid up his gallies after the battle of Actium, is now become an inland city.

The

The country from Montpelier to Niſmes, is a garden, level, and every where cultivated. The peaſants are juſt beginning to gather olives, which are very numerous, and the trees are planted with the ſame regularity as our orchards in England. I cannot but envy the inhabitants this genial climate and theſe fertile plains, and am ready to accuſe Nature of partiality in the infinite difference which ſhe has placed between the peaſant of Languedoc and of Sweden. In vain will you tell me that the *Amor Patriæ*, the attachment we naturally bear to that country where we were born, renders them equally happy, and extinguiſhes all other diſtinctions. I know the force of this principle; I feel and cultivate it with the greateſt ardour——but it cannot blind me to the infinite ſuperiority with which certain countries of the earth are endowed, above other leſs favoured latitudes and regions.

I paſſed three days at Niſmes in the ſurvey of thoſe magnificent and beautiful remains of Roman greatneſs which yet ſubſiſt there. They have been deſcribed a thouſand times, and it is not my intention to fatigue you with a repetition of them. The Amphitheatre, and the "maiſon quarrée," are known throughout every kingdom of Europe. The firſt of theſe impreſſes the beholder with the deepeſt veneration; the latter ex-

cites the moſt elegant and refined delight. Indignation againſt the barbarians who could violate and deface theſe glorious monuments of antiquity, will mix with the ſenſations of every ſpectator.

One can ſcarce believe that Charles Martel, from hatred to the Roman name, had the ſavage fury to fill the corridores of the amphitheatre with wood, to which he ſet fire with an intent to injure, though it ſurpaſſed his power to demoliſh ſo vaſt an edifice. Yet notwithſtanding theſe attempts of the barbarous nations, notwithſtanding the lapſe of ſo many ages, and the effects of time, its appearance at preſent is the moſt auguſt and majeſtic which can be preſented to the mind, or to the ſenſes. The prodigious circumference of the amphitheatre, the ſolidity and ſtrength of its conſtruction, the awful majeſty of ſo vaſt a pile, half perfect, half in ruin, impreſs one with a tumult of ſentiments which it is difficult to convey to you by any deſcription.

The "maiſon quarrée," is in the moſt complete preſervation, and appears to me to be the moſt perfect piece of architecture in the world. The order is the Corinthian, and all the beauties of that elegant ſtyle ſeem to be exhauſted in its conſtruction. This ſuperb temple is now converted into a

chapel

chapel dedicated to the Virgin, ornamented with gilding and other holy finery, ſuitable to ſuch an alteration.

WRAXALL.

SECT. LXV.

OF THE FERTILITY OF THE COUNTRY BETWEEN BOURDEAUX AND AGEN.

WHEN I left Bourdeaux I took the road to Agen, along the ſouthern bank of the Garonne. The country through which I paſſed from Langon, where I croſſed the Garonne, to the gates of that city, is fertile beyond any I have ſeen in Europe. The hills are all covered with vineyards to the ſummit, and the vallies ſcarce require the induſtry of the peaſants to produce in plenty whatever is neceſſary for their ſubſiſtence. The climate at this ſeaſon is delicious; and no marks of winter appear in any of the productions of nature. Cherry-trees, figs, acacias, poplars, and elms, are in full verdure. In many places, where they border on the ſide of the road, the vines have run up, and mixed their cluſters among the boughs. This is truly

truly beautiful and picturesque. Milton, in his divine flights of imagination, could employ our first parents in no more delightful occupation, even in Paradise.

——— " Or they led the vine
" To wed her elm; she round about him throws
" Her marriageable arms; and with her brings
" Her dower, th' adopted clusters, to adorn
" His barren leaves.

In the midst of this charming country, in a plain, close to the Garonne, stands the city of Agen. Behind it, to the north, rises a very high hill, called " Le Bocher de la belle Vue." I went up to the summit, on which there is a convent. The chapel and some of the adjoining cells are hollowed out of the rock. It is said that these apartments are very ancient, and were made many centuries ago by hermits, who retired thither from motives of devotion and austerity. The prospect is beautiful. Beneath lies the city of Agen, and through the meadows which surround it rolls the Garonne.

One of the monks shewed me the apartments of the convent; and in the recesses of the rock he led me to a spring which is never dry, and which he assured me had been opened by miracle, at the intercession of some holy recluse in ages past. Their little

little refectory was hung with portraits of the ſame monaſtic heroes, among which was St. William, duke of Aquitaine; and at the upper end, in golden letters, was written, "Silentium."

Agen is a very mean and diſagreeable place; the houſes are ill built, the ſtreets narrow, crooked, and dirty. I ſaw only one building in it which appeared to me deſerving of notice. It is a chapel belonging to a nunnery of Carmelites. The walls are exquiſitely painted in chiaro oſcuro, and the deception of the roof, which is executed in the ſame manner, is admirable. The high altar is magnificent, and adorned with a piece of painting, the ſubject of which is very intereſting. It is a nun, ſinking under the tranſports of holy contemplation. She appears as if incapable of ſupporting the divine effulgence of her celeſtial lover, with eyes half cloſed, and arms expanded. Above, deſcends a radiant figure, with looks of tenderneſs and pleaſure, ſurrounded with the glories of the ſkies, too ſtrong for mortal ſight. If it had not been a religious edifice, I ſhould have ſuppoſed it to be the ſtory of Jupiter and Semelé, to which it bears the moſt apt reſemblance. Near the piece is this inſcription:

"Quid non conatur Amor!
"Cœlos in Terris adumbrare
"Carmeli Filiæ tentârunt,
"Anno ſalutis 1773."

Here

Here one cannot help being ſtruck with the juſtice of a remark, which has often been made on the intimate alliance between love and devotion, when carried to an exceſs. The ſame enthuſiaſm, the ſame melting language, the ſame overpowering delights, are common to both paſſions. Love, ſays Rouſſeau, in extreme, borrows the language of Devotion; and Devotion, in her flights, adopts the expreſſions of attachment and fondneſs.

We are uſed to apprehend the condition of a young woman who has taken the veil to be very miſerable. Where convenience, or chagrin, or melancholy, are the motives to this act of ſelf-dedication, I fully concur in that opinion; but there are women, I doubt not, who in the gloom of a convent, amid ſhrines and crucifixes, are yet ſupremely happy. Married to a heavenly ſpouſe, and dedicated to the embraces of a ſuperior and inviſible being, Enthuſiaſm has ample room to exert her powers, and raiſe her votary above the poor gratifications of earth.

"To ſounds of heavenly harps ſhe dies away,
"And melts in viſions of eternal day."

WRAXALL.

SECT.

SECT. LXVI.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE DIFFERENT WAYS THAT LEAD INTO ITALY.

IF you enter Italy by the way of France, you will probably go to Lyon. From thence you have your choice, either to go by land through Savoy, and acroſs Mount Cenis to Turin; or paſſing through Provence, to embark at Antibes or Nice, for Genoa or Leghorn. From Swiſſerland you may paſs Mount S. Gothard; from the Valais, Mount S. Bernard; and from Germany you may go through the Tyrol. Carriages can paſs only by the firſt and laſt of theſe routes. In croſſing Mount Cenis they muſt be taken to pieces; but the whole road through the Tyrol is not merely practicable, but even excellent for a carriage.

From Lyon to Turin they reckon thirty-five poſts, ſixty-four leagues, or one hundred and ninety-three Engliſh miles: the time, fifty-ſix hours. The road paſſes through the Lyonnois, Savoy, and Piedmont, by Pont-Beauvoiſin and Chambery, over Mount Cenis.

Pont-Beauvoiſin, which is fifteen leagues or nine poſts

poſts from Lyon, is on the frontier; a little river ſeparates it into two parts, one of which belongs to France, and the other to Savoy.

No ſooner have you paſſed the frontiers of France, than you perceive a change of country, climate, and people. The mountains of Savoy afford a new ſcene. Woods, rocks, precipices, caſcades and torrents, form views that charm an eye fond of rude nature. Others find this journey dreary and diſagreeable. The road, however, is ſafe and good, and in many places even beautiful. From Pont-Beauvoiſin you go to Chambery, which, though the capital of Savoy, affords nothing worth ſeeing. The ſituation indeed is fine, in a wide delightful valley, where there is the greateſt variety of objects that a fine country and mountains can produce: but it is a poor dirty town; the houſes dark, the ſtreets narrow, the convents and other public buildings miſerable. The remainder of the ducal palace is a caſtle; over the gate-way are the governor's lodgings, commanding the town and adjacent country. During the carnival they have plays and maſked balls.

If inſtead of taking the direct route you go by Geneva, you will find it nineteen poſts, or ninety-five miles three furlongs from Lyon to that place; the time twenty-one or twenty-two hours.

From

From Geneva to Chambery it is ſeven poſts, or forty-ſix miles and a half; and the time thirteen or fourteen hours. This therefore is ſeventy-two miles out of the way, and will take ſixteen or ſeventeen hours more in time. But if you have already ſeen Paris and Lyon, there is a road from Calais to Dijon, by S. Omer, Arras, Cambray, Laon, Rheims, Chalon ſur Marne, Joinville, and Langres, which is ſixty-ſix poſts, or three hundred and fifty-one Engliſh miles; and from Dijon to Geneva, by Auxone, Dole, Poligny, and from Morey acroſs Mount Jura to Nyon, twenty-one poſts: the time of the whole route about eighty-one hours. Whereas by Paris and Lyon, it will coſt you one hundred and two hours; but during four or five months Mount Jura is impracticable.

From Geneva, your beſt way is to hire horſes to convey you to Chambery, there being very few horſes on the road till you come into the direct way from France. It is ſeven poſts from Geneva to Chambery, and the voiturier will be at leaſt twelve hours in going them, unleſs your carriage is light. If you think this too much for one day, you may ſet out in the afternoon from Geneva, lay at Frangy, and arrive eaſily at Chambery the next day, time enough to ſee that place.

Montmelian, which is only a poſt and a half,

or

or nine miles from Chambery, is alſo moſt delightfully ſituated at the head of three vallies. The inn is not in the town, but half a league on this ſide of it, and the aſcent from it is very ſteep. Having paſſed the mountain, the road lies in a very narrow valley, which winds inceſſantly. The wine made about Montmelian is much eſteemed. After this you meet with nothing but wretched towns and villages, and a country of terrible poverty and filth. The honeſt, plain, and thrifty Savoyards have very little land to cultivate, and look extremely unhealthy. Aiguebelle lies in a bottom cloſely ſurrounded by mountains. It is but a poor ſtraggling village. The water is clear, light, and ſparkling.

After you have paſſed Aiguebelle, *goitres* or ſwelled necks become frequent. St. Jean de Maurienne was formerly the reſidence of the counts of this country. It is ſituated in the middle of the higheſt Alps, in a valley tolerably wide. The roads are pretty good, except through the towns, where they are ill paved, and barely wide enough for a carriage to paſs. Indeed they are in general narrow, which is no wonder, where there is ſo little land to ſpare. Frequently you find no more than room for this confined way between the ſteep mountain and the torrent; and in ſome places they

are

are obliged to hew it out of the rock itſelf. Whenever the valley widens a little, you find a miſerable village; and ſome of theſe, as if it were to ſpare their uſeful land for cultivation, are placed in the very bed of the torrent, which occupies ſo large a portion of all that is not barren rock. The road is almoſt a continued aſcent and deſcent by the ſide of the Arche, a river which riſes in Mount Iſerau, and joins the Iſere near Montmelian. As you advance, the mountains grow higher and more ſteep, till at length the road cloſes in a narrow gorge, and a very long and heavy aſcent to Lannebourg, which is at the foot of Mount Cenis. There are about two hundred and twenty houſes in this village, and about one hundred porters on the Syndic's liſt, who are employed in their turns.

The inns on this road are very bad; it is therefore adviſeable, if you can bear the fatigue, to go through without ſtopping. You ſhould by all means have the whole day before you to croſs Mount Cenis, that you may not be hurried in the double operation of taking your carriage to pieces, and putting it together again; and that you may have time in the evening to arrive at Suze; in which caſe the next day you will eaſily reach Turin to dinner. The whole paſſage of the mountain

tain from Lannebourg to Novalize may eaſily be accompliſhed in four or at moſt five hours, and has nothing terrible in it; at leaſt from May to October. In a deep ſnow, in a violent tempeſt, and eſpecially in a great thaw, there is certainly ſome danger; at all other times there is nothing but the inconvenience of taking the carriage in pieces, to ſend it over the mountain on mules; but the people are ſo adroit in this operation, and reſtore it to its primitive ſtate ſo eaſily, that the whole rather furniſhes amuſement than gives pain to the traveller.

You have it in your option to paſs over on mules, or in *chaiſes-a-porteurs*, which are ruſh-bottomed elbow chairs, without legs. Two men carry them by means of two poles, and they have a foot-board. Theſe fellows are very ſtrong and nimble, never miſſing a ſtep, but treading firm in the rougheſt ways with the agility of goats. They relieve each other at proper intervals. In deſcending, they ſhow great dexterity in the frequent windings of the mountain. From ſix to ten of theſe men are aſſigned to each perſon, in proportion to his ſize. Their pay is fifty ſols of Savoy each, that is about two ſhillings and ſeven-pence halfpenny. The price of a mule to carry the baggage is the ſame; of a mule to ride forty ſols, or two ſhillings

lings and a penny. A mule is not obliged to carry above 350lb. ſo that if the body of your carriage exceeds that weight, they may demand what they pleaſe. There is alſo one ſedan chair at Suze, which may generally be had by ſending notice before-hand to the other ſide of the mountain; and lately they have provided other covered chairs. The aſcent is not bad, and is eaſily performed in an hour and a half. At the top is a plain, about five miles in length; it is a fine turf, and may be galloped over, not only with perfect ſafety, but with pleaſure. There is a beautiful lake on this plain, with excellent trout in it.

It is often related, as a wonderful circumſtance, that there ſhould be a lake on the top of Mount Cenis; but the truth is, that this plain is no more than a very high valley or gorge of the mountain; and though it be indeed the higheſt part which travellers paſs over, yet there are lofty pikes which riſe at leaſt three thouſand feet above it. The lake is ſupplied from the ſnow that melts on theſe, and trickles through the crevices. It gives riſe to the river Dora, and therefore may be looked upon as one of the ſources of the Po. You may ſtop at a public houſe by the hoſpital to refreſh the men; and having traverſed the plain, you begin to deſcend into Piedmont. The proſpect on each ſide

of

of tall firs, larches, and cheſnuts, of natural waterfalls and roaring mountain rivers, affords a variety at once awful and pleaſing. From the plain of S. Nicolas you have a view of a beautiful caſcade; and half way between the great croſs and Novaleze you paſs a wretched village, called La Ferriere. You will be two hours at leaſt in getting to Novaleze. The deſcent is ſteep, but no where dangerous.

Some adventurous people, who return from Italy by the way of Mount Cenis in winter, when the mountain is covered with ſnow, ſlide down on ſledges. The deſcent towards Lannebourg is very ſteep, and it takes almoſt an hour to go down it, on account of the many turnings and windings you are obliged to make; but the whole ſide of the mountain being then covered with one ſolid ſmooth cruſt of ſnow, at the proper place you may put yourſelf on a ſledge, with a guide on the fore part of it, who will conduct it, and change the direction of it with his foot, whenever it is neceſſary, and thus bring you to the bottom in ten or twelve minutes very ſafe; or if the ſledge now and then overturns, they ſay it is without any bad conſequence. This is called in French, "ſe faire ramaſſer," and the place whence you ſet out, "les ramaſſes." Novaleze is a poor place, with an indifferent

different inn, where is the firſt cuſtom-houſe for Piedmont; and a ſtranger muſt take care not to have ſnuff, or any new foreign commodities.

You will quit this place if you had not time to reach Suze the evening before, by nine or ten in the morning, that you may have the day before you, and be ſure to arrive at Turin before ten o'clock, after which hour the gates are not opened. The road to Suze is rough and bad, with a ſteep aſcent and deſcent, and the town is not conſiderable. You will paſs the formidable fortreſs of the Brunetta, along a narrow gorge of the mountain. This is the barrier of Italy, and the key of Piedmont. The fortifications are ſaid to be well worth ſeeing, but it is difficult to obtain the permiſſion. At Suze, in the gardens of the caſtle, is a triumphal arch, erected in the time of Auguſtus.

At Rivoli, which is only two leagues from Turin, the King of Sardinia has a country houſe. From hence to the capital is a handſome broad ſtraight road, bordered by double rows of fine elms. There are ſome wild and magnificent views between Mount Cenis and Turin; and the meadows in ſome ſeaſons are equal in point of verdure to any in England. They are watered by the Dora, which deſcends with vaſt impetuoſity from the Alps.

SECT. LXVII.

CHARACTER OF THE ITALIANS. A. D. 1776.

MEDIOCRITY is rare here; every thing is in extremes. No where is ſo fine muſic to be heard; no where (except at the opera of Paris) are the ears ſo cruelly tortured. The eyes are charmed and tormented alternately by the moſt ſuperb and moſt deteſtable pictures and ſtatues. No citizens; an exceſſive luxury amongſt individuals; and the people in the moſt abject miſery.

It is the ſame with regard to religion; you will ſee nothing but a blind ſuperſtition, or determined atheiſts. But of all the extremes, the moſt ſtriking are thoſe which are obſerved in the character of the nation. The Italian, in general, is exceedingly good, or wicked to a degree. There are excellent hearts in this country; but like the great pictures, they are ſcarce. Men are born there with ſtrong paſſions, and not receiving any education, it is not aſtoniſhing that they often commit great crimes. Under a cold exterior they conceal burning hearts; and their exterior is cold only to conceal their hearts. Love, jealouſy, and revenge are their ruling

ing paſſions. As they think only of the ſenſual part of love, and know well the conſtitutions of their women, and the wiles of their rivals, their jealouſy is always awake, and their revenge is implacable.

As to underſtanding, it is nearly the ſame; men of talents form the large claſs; there are few fools; and middling men are very rare. "Why then, you will aſk, do theſe men produce nothing excellent?" Becauſe they have ungoverned imaginations, and no philoſophy; and becauſe good taſte has not yet penetrated into their country. And why has not good taſte entered Italy? Becauſe Italy has neither a London nor a Paris, and becauſe ſhe never had a Lewis the Fourteenth.

Travellers are often miſtaken in judging of the Italian, eſpecially the Neapolitan. They think he has no ſenſe, becauſe he wants ideas. A man can have but few ideas when he has never been out of his own country, and when he has read nothing; but examine the Neapolitan on all the ſubjects with which he is acquainted, and you will ſee whether he wants natural capacity. He reſembles the ſoil of his own country. A field well tilled in Naples produces the moſt plentiful crops; neglected, it yields but briars and thiſtles. It is the ſame with

the genius of the inhabitants; cultivated, it is capable of every thing; untilled, it produces only folly and vice.

SHERLOCK.

SECT. LXVIII.

TWO CURIOUS REMARKS.

I MADE two obſervations in my travels; one, that the people of every country make ſomething well; the other, that every nation has a peculiar manner of ruining itſelf. The Engliſh ruin themſelves by play; the French, by women; the Iriſh by hoſpitality; the Swiſs, by drinking; and the Germans, by a multitude of ſervants. I ſhould not have ſaid *every*, I ſhould have ſaid *almoſt* every. The Italians don't ruin themſelves, becauſe they are ruined already. However, individuals among them *do*; ſome Milaneſe, for example, by eating; ſome Venetians, by gallantry and gaming; ſome Neapolitans, by equipages and embroidery; and ſeveral Romans, by every ſpecies of impurity. Neither do the Dutch ruin themſelves; it is not, however,

however, becauſe they are already ruined, but becauſe they are too phlegmatic to ruin themſelves any way. The few who *do* deſtroy themſelves, do it by avarice, by lending money at exorbitant intereſt on bad ſecurities.

There are Dutchmen too who ruin themſelves by flowers. I do not guaranty the truth of this anecdote, though I heard it from perſons of veracity in Holland. A man, whoſe paſſion was for flowers, and who had an uncommon fine tulip-root of a very particular kind, heard that another floriſt had one as fine as his. He purchaſed it from him for a ſum of money ſo large, I dare not mention it; and when he had got it into his poſſeſſion, he broke it to pieces with his heel, ſaying, "Now there is not in the world another tulip-root equal to mine."

Every nation excels too in making ſomething. The French make gold and ſilver ſtuffs, and political lies better than any people in the world. The Italians make ices, maccaroni, and religious lies to admiration. The Saxons make excellent porcelaine. The Dutch are famous for making ſea-landſcapes. The Flemiſh for making lace. And the Engliſh—why the Engliſh, I think, make men and women better than any nation I know.

There is a better race of men and women in

England than I have ever ſeen in any other country. If any one aſks me *why* it is ſo? I anſwer, I can't tell. If he aſks me how I *know* that it is ſo? I anſwer, by looking at them. There is alſo a better race of dogs* and horſes here than in any other country I have ſeen; but there are too a great many garrons and curs.

SHERLOCK.

SECT. LXIX.

THE REASONS WHY THE FRENCH HAVE MORE WIT AND BETTER SPIRITS THAN THE ENGLISH.

SIR, ſays a man to Swift, I have a mind to ſet up for a Wit. Sir, ſays Swift, I adviſe you to ſit down again. This was very good advice, particularly in this country, where that ſame author has obſerved, not one man in ten thouſand has wit. Almoſt every body is witty in France. Why then there, and not here? The reaſons are purely phyſical;

* Not to ſpeak of a great many promiſing puppies.

ſical; for Engliſhmen ought to have twenty times more wit than Frenchmen.

Ideas are the matter of which wit is made, and the Engliſh have infinitely more ideas than the French. This ariſes from their early education, from their being a more reading people, &c. You ſee this is a very ſtrong reaſon why the Engliſh ought to be ſuperior to the French in this point.

But if ideas are the materials, fancy is the inſtrument which operates on thoſe materials; and here comes in the ſuperiority of the French. Their fancies are livelier, brighter, and quicker.

The force of the imagination depends a great deal on the affluence of the animal ſpirits; its brightneſs on the refinement of thoſe ſpirits; and its quickneſs on the celerity of their movement. Now, in point of copiouſneſs of ſpirits, the Engliſh, I believe, have the advantage of the French. A bull has more ſpirits in him than an ape; but the ape's ſpirits are always in motion, and it is very difficult to move the bull's. This, you ſee, is a caſe in point; and John Bull, I am perſuaded, has a greater quantity of ſpirits than *Jack Singe*. But the Frenchman's ſpirits are more refined and quicker in their motions than ours, and this for a number of reaſons. I ſhall here mention ſome of the principal.

A Frenchman never taſtes malt liquor, he eats no butter, and his bread is light. The meat in France is not near ſo fat as it is here, and it is much better dreſſed. The ſauces are poignant and not greaſy. He eats a great deal of ſoup and light vegetables. He drinks in moderation as much wine and water as is neceſſary to dilute his dinner, and then he takes as much *good* wine, coffee, and *liqueurs*, as is neceſſary to heat his ſtomach, and quicken the circulation of his blood, *and no more*. Add to this, the pureneſs of the air, and the light ſociety of the moſt amiable women in the world, in which he paſſes ſo much of his time; and you will ſee reaſons enough why his ſpirits ſhould be quicker in their motion, and more refined than ours.

I need not mention how oppoſite our manner of living is; the quantities of blood-food we eat, the quantity of bad wine we drink, the groſſneſs of our atmoſphere, nor many other cauſes that hinder the celerity of our fancies, and conſequently impede conſiderably the vivacity of our wit.

However, the Engliſh do not think much of the ſuperiority of the French in this article. They pique themſelves on having better ſenſe and more learning than their neighbours; and they have more ſenſe and learning. The French allow this, and it does

does not give them any uneaſineſs. They value themſelves on being wittier and more amiable than the Engliſh. When a Frenchman has knowledge, and is grown a little ſteady, his company is delightful; when an Engliſhman has fancy and good manners, his ſociety is enchanting. I always thought that thoſe two nations, blended together, would produce perfection in every thing.

SHERLOCK.

SECT. LXX.

OF EDINBURGH. A. D. 1774.

THE ſituation of Edinburgh is probably as extraordinary an one as can well be imagined for a metropolis. The immenſe hills, on which great part of it is built, though they make the views uncommonly magnificent, not only in many places render it impaſſable for carriages, but very fatiguing for walking. The principal or great ſtreet runs along the ridge of a very high hill, which, taking its riſe from the palace of Holyrood-houſe, aſcends, and not very gradually, for the length of a mile and

a quarter, and after opening a ſpacious area, terminates in the caſtle. On one ſide, far as the eye can reach, you view the ſea, the port of Leith, its harbour and various veſſels, the river of Forth, the immenſe hills around, ſome of which aſcend above even the caſtle; and on the other ſide you look over a rich and cultivated country, terminated by the dark, abrupt, and barren hills of the Highlands.

The famous ſtreet at Liſle, la Rue Royale, leading to the port of Tourney, which is ſaid to be the fineſt in Europe, is not to be compared, either in length or breadth, to the High-ſtreet at Edinburgh; and would they be at the expence of removing ſome buildings which obſtruct the view, by being placed in the middle of the ſtreet, nothing could be conceived more magnificent. Not content, however, with this, they ſuffer a weekly market to be held, in which ſtalls are erected nearly the whole length of it, and make a confuſion almoſt impoſſible to be conceived. All ſorts of iron and copper ware are expoſed to ſale; here likewiſe the herb market is held, and the herb women, who are in no country either the moſt peaceable or the moſt cleanly beings upon earth, throw about the roots, ſtalks, &c. of the bad vegetables, to the great nuiſance of the paſſengers.

The

The ſtyle of building here is much like the French. The houſes, however, in general are higher, as ſome riſe to twelve, and one in particular to thirteen ſtories in heighth. But to the front of the ſtreet nine or ten ſtories is the common run. It is the back part of the edifice, which, by being built on the ſlope of an hill, ſinks to that amazing depth, ſo as to form the above number. This mode of dwelling, though very proper for the turbulent times to which it was adapted, has now loſt its convenience. As they no longer ſtand in need of defence from the caſtle, they no more find the benefit of being crowded together ſo near it. The common ſtaircaſe, which leads to the apartments of the different inhabitants, muſt always be dirty, and is in general very dark and narrow. It has this advantage, however, that as they are all of ſtone, they have little to apprehend from fire, which, in the opinion of ſome, would more than compenſate for every other diſadvantage. In general, however, the higheſt and loweſt tenements are poſſeſſed by the artificers, while the gentry and better ſort of people dwell in fifth and ſixth ſtories.

In London ſuch an habitation would not be deemed the moſt eligible, and many a man in ſuch a ſituation would not be ſorry to deſcend a little lower. The ſtyle of building here has given riſe

to different ideas. Some years ago, a Scotch gentleman, who went to London for the firſt time, took the uppermoſt ſtory of a lodging-houſe, and was very much ſurpriſed to find what he thought the genteeleſt place in the whole at the loweſt price. His friends who came to ſee him, in vain acquainted him with the miſtake he had been guilty of: "He ken'd very weel," he ſaid, "what gentility was, and when he had lived all his life in a ſexth ſtory, he was not come to London to live upon the ground."

From the right of the High-ſtreet you paſs over a very long bridge to the New Town. Before this bridge was built, you had a very ſteep hill to deſcend and to aſcend, which was found extremely inconvenient. A ſubſcription therefore was entered into to build one; and a moſt ſtupendous work it is indeed. It is thrown over this immenſe valley; and as no water runs under it, you have the whole effect of its heighth. From it you have a fine view up and down the vale, and the proſpect through the middle arch is inconceivably beautiful. Not long ago a part of this bridge gave way, and many people who were upon it ſunk into the chaſm, and were buried in the ruins. Many others, who were likewiſe upon the bridge, ſaw the fate of their unfortunate companions, without being able to aſ-

ſiſt

ſiſt them. All was terror and conſternation. Every one fled from this ſcene of death as faſt as poſſible, expecting the bridge to ſink under them at every ſtep, and themſelves to be cruſhed to pieces. When the bridge was cleared, and the general conſternation had a little ſubſided, it was found that only a ſmall part had given way, which they are now repairing, and making ſtronger than ever. But ſo great was the fear it occaſioned amongſt all ranks of people, that many of them look upon it with terror even to this day, and make it an objection to reſiding in the New Town, that they muſt neceſſarily paſs over it.

The New Town has been built upon one uniform plan, which is the only means of making a city beautiful. Great part of this plan as yet remains to be executed, though they proceed as faſt as their ſupplies of money will allow them. The rent of the houſes in general amounts to an hundred pounds per annum, or upwards, and are moſt of them let to the inhabitants by builders, who buy the ground, and make what advantage they can of it. The greateſt part of the New Town is built after the manner of the Engliſh, and the houſes are what they call here "houſes to themſelves." Though this mode of living, one would imagine, is much preferable to the former, yet ſuch is the force

force of prejudice, that there are many people who prefer a little dark confined tenement on a ſixth ſtory, to the convenience of a whole houſe. One old lady fancies ſhe ſhould be loſt if ſhe was to get into ſuch an habitation; another, that ſhe ſhould be blown away in going over the new bridge; and a third lives in the old ſtyle, becauſe ſhe is ſure that theſe new faſhions can come to "nae gude." But different as theſe ſentiments are in regard to living, they are not more different than the buildings themſelves. In no town that I ever ſaw can ſuch a contraſt be found betwixt the modern and ancient architecture, or any thing that better merits the obſervation of a ſtranger.

The pavement of the whole town is excellent. The granite, which long ſupplied London, till Jerſey and Guernſey robbed them of thoſe advantages, is dug from the hills cloſe to the town, and brought at very ſmall expence. Maitland, in his hiſtory of this town, calls it "grey marble;" but without diſputing about the propriety of the name, every one muſt allow it the very beſt ſtone poſſible for the purpoſe. They finiſh it with an exactneſs which the London workmen are indifferent about, and which indeed London would not admit of, from the number of weighty carriages that continually go over it.

From

From the left of the High-ſtreet you paſs down by a number of different allies, or as they call them here, wynds and cloſſes, to the different parts of the old town. They are many of them ſo very ſteep, that it requires great attention to the feet to prevent falling; but ſo well accuſtomed are the Scotch to that poſition of body required in deſcending theſe declivities, that I have ſeen a Scotch girl run down them with great ſwiftneſs in pattens.

This town has long been reproached with many uncleanly cuſtoms. A gentleman, who lately publiſhed his travels through Spain, ſays, "that Madrid, ſome years ago, might have vied with Edinburgh in filthineſs." It may probably be ſome pleaſure to this author, and to thoſe who read him, to learn that his remarks are now very erroneous.

But if a ſtranger may be allowed to complain, it would be, that in theſe wynds, which are very numerous, the dirt is ſometimes ſuffered to remain two or three days without removal, and becomes offenſive to more ſenſes than one. The magiſtrates by impoſing fines and other puniſhments, have long put a ſtop to the throwing any thing from the windows into the open ſtreet. But as theſe alleys are unlighted, narrow, and removed from public view, they ſtill continue theſe practices with

with impunity. Many an elegant ſuit of clothes has been ſpoiled; many a powdered, well-dreſſed maccaroni ſent home for the evening; and to conclude this period in Dr. Johnſon's own ſimple words, "Many a full-flowing perriwig moiſtened into flaccidity."

Such particulars, however, as theſe, ſcarce merit obſervation. They are circumſtances reſulting from the peculiar inconveniency of the buildings, and not from the natural diſpoſition of the Scotch, who love cleanlineſs, and practice it. They lament the impropriety of theſe cuſtoms, and join in the laugh at the accidents they occaſion.

It has been the misfortune of almoſt every nation to be prejudged at a diſtance, or to be viſited by a number of men whoſe reſolutions are too ſtrong for conviction. They come with a fixed idea, that the Scotch are a dirty people. They probably meet with ſome perſon who is ſo, and would be ſo in any country; and away they hurry back, and give, as they think, the juſt character of the whole nation. It has been the peculiar fortune of the Scotch to have been thus treated: but they are a ſenſible and ingenious people, and look upon theſe haſty cenſures in the manner they deſerve. But to every man, who is "Nullius addictus jurare in verba magiſtri," and who is bigotted to

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no particular cuſtoms, I make no ſcruple of declaring, that this metropolis is not, as ſome of our countrymen pleaſe to ſay, dirty and diſagreeable; but adorned with many elegant and beautiful ſtructures, the ſeat of ſeveral of the moſt ingenious men in Europe, and who are an honour to the age they live in, abounding in many of the politer embelliſhments of life, and well deſerving the attention of a traveller.

TOPHAM'S LETTERS FROM EDINBURGH.

SECT. LXXI.

A SINGULAR ANECDOTE.

ON our firſt arrival at Edinburgh, my companion and ſelf, after the fatigue of a long day's journey, upon enquiring for an inn, were taken to a houſe, where we were conducted by a girl without ſhoes or ſtockings, and with only a ſingle linſey-woolſey petticoat, which juſt reached half-way to her ancles, into a room where about twenty Scotch drovers had been regaling themſelves with whiſky and potatoes. You may gueſs our amaze-

ment,

ment, when we were informed, " that this was the beſt inn in the metropolis—that we could have no beds, unleſs we had an inclination to ſleep together, and in the ſame room with the company, which a ſtage-coach had that moment diſcharged." Well, ſaid I to my friend, (for I have more patience on theſe occaſions than wit on any other) there is nothing like ſeeing men and manners; perhaps we may be able to repoſe ourſelves at ſome coffee-houſe. Accordingly, on enquiry, we diſcovered that there was a good dame by the Croſs, who acted in the double capacity of pouring out coffee, or letting lodgings to ſtrangers as we were. She was eaſily to be found out; and with all the conciliating complaiſance of a Maîtreſſe d'Hotel, conducted us to our deſtined apartments, which were indeed ſix ſtories high; but ſo infernal to appearance, that you would have thought yourſelf in the regions of Erebus. The truth of this, I will venture to ſay, you will make no ſcruple to believe, when I tell you, that in the whole we had only two windows, which looked into an alley five feet wide, where the houſes were at leaſt ten ſtories high, and the alley itſelf was ſo ſombre in the brighteſt ſun-ſhine, that it was impoſſible to ſee any object diſtinctly.

And now I am in the ſtory-telling humour, I cannot omit giving an account of an adventure which

which happened here very lately to a friend of mine; as it tallies in ſome meaſure with what I have already related, and ſerves to confirm the wretchedneſs of accommodation which muſt be put up with in this city. A gentleman from London, who had been appointed to ſome duty in a public office, came to Edinburgh, and having no friends to furniſh him with a bed, and few acquaintances to give him any aſſiſtance, found himſelf obliged to conceal himſelf in one of theſe dark abodes, in order to be nigh the centre of the town, where his employment compelled him to paſs moſt part of the day. As he perceived his lodgings as good as his neighbours, it induced him to continue there, until he diſcovered himſelf extremely weak and emaciated, occaſioned by conſtant violent perſpirations, in which he waked every morning. The obſervations which ſome of his aſſociates made on the alteration of his *embonpoint*, and the ſituation to which he was reduced, (for from a ſtout and luſty man he was now become a mere ſhadow) perſuaded him to think himſelf really ill, and in a conſumption. Accordingly he ſent for the Profeſſor, and another or two of the learned fraternity, who, with all the ſignificancy of pompous phyſic, pronounced him to be in a very declining ſtate, and adminiſtered every reſtorative which the Æſculapian

pian art could ſuggeſt or ſupply. But all without effect. He ſtill continued to grow worſe; and at length, almoſt totally exhauſted, and giving himſelf a prey to deſpair, he ſent up for his landlady to be a witneſs to his will; who, much concerned for the melancholy event, and with tears in her eyes, ſaid, "How unfortunate ſhe had been ſince ſhe kept houſe; that her two former lodgers had died with her; that ſhe was ſure ſhe did every thing to ſerve them all; that for her part, ſhe always took care that their linen was well aired; and as for her rooms, nothing could be drier or more free from dampneſs; that her neighbour, good man, was a baker, and his oven was directly under them; that ſhe was ſure, therefore, they muſt be warm, and it was impoſſible to catch cold in her houſe."—— "Good God," cried the gentleman, "an oven under my room! no wonder I am in a conſumption, after having been baked for theſe three months." Upon which he ſent for the baker, and found what ſhe ſaid was really true; that the oven was immediately under his bed, and that the decreaſe of his health had been in proportion to the increaſe of the baker's buſineſs. The diſcovery, therefore, being a much better medicine than any the profeſſors could preſcribe, he quitted this *enfer*,

by

by degrees recovered his ſtrength and conſtitution, and lives now to ridicule the oddity of the accident.

After all this, I am ſure every one will agree with me, that it is extremely ſtrange, that a city, which is a thoroughfare into all Scotland, and now little inferior in politeneſs to London in many reſpects, ſhould not be better furniſhed with conveniences for ſtrangers, or have a public lodging-houſe where you can find tolerable entertainment. But it really has not; and I am the more ſurpriſed at it, as, in their manner of living, and many cuſtoms, I think the inhabitants much reſemble the French. But in this particular, what a difference between this place and Paris! where in a minute you may be provided with a houſe equal to one of the greateſt nobility, with ſervants, equipage, and all the luxuries of elegance and taſte; whilſt at Edinburgh, without an inn to put your head into, and without a lodging that you can breathe in, you are obliged to bleſs your ſtars to get any place to repoſe yourſelf, till better fortune, or better acquaintance, have intereſt enough to procure it in ſome private houſe.——It is a pity,—it is a diſgrace to the country; and I ſhould hope, ere long, the pride or good ſenſe of Scotland will ſo far prevail,

vail, as to eſtabliſh an hotel* in ſome ſuitable part of the town, to obviate the inconvenience of the want of theſe neceſſaries.

TOPHAM.

SECT. LXXII.

OF THE HOSPITALITY AND GOOD-BREEDING OF THE SCOTCH; THEIR LANGUAGE, PARTICULAR BEAUTIES IN IT, AND EXPRESSIONS.

THIS country has long been celebrated for its hoſpitality to ſtrangers; and I am ſure I can with great truth add my humble ſuffrage to this general obſervation. They do not think they have paid you all the attention that is neceſſary, when they have invited you once to dinner, and then take no more notice of you. They are eager to ſhow you repeated civilities. They are happy to explain, to inform

* There are now two elegant hotels in the New Town, and a tavern on the new bridge. There are alſo ſeveral coffee-houſes and apartments in the Old Town in the Engliſh taſte.

inform you of what is really curious in their country. They give you a general invitation to their houſes. They beg of you to viſit them familiarly, and are ſorry if you do not do ſo. I am aſhamed to ſay that many of my countrymen ſeem to have forgot all their kindneſs the moment they returned over the Tweed. I truſt thoſe waters will never waſh away my remembrance, but that I ſhall always be proud to own the hoſpitality of the Scotch, and the civilities I received in Scotland.

I know of no quality more conſpicuous in the inhabitants of this country, than complaiſance; which is common to every age and ſex, but more particularly to the women, who ſeem to make it a ſtudy to oblige, and endeavour to emulate each other in good-breeding; which, I think, is the art of ſhewing people, by external ſigns, the inward regard which we have for them. As nothing indicates the judgment of a nation more than good-breeding, ſo it likewiſe diſcovers their good nature. For politeneſs is, in my opinion, the reſult not only of good nature, but of good ſenſe. It gives a luſtre to every other charm, and conceals, in a great degree, every diſadvantage which women may lie under in their perſons. But I aſſure you, the Scotch ladies have no need of this enchanting accompliſhment on the laſt account. Nature has been as liberal

liberal to them in decorating their external parts, as in ornamenting their minds; and I believe as few nations excel them in beauty, as in advantages derived from diſpoſition and education. No women underſtand better the rules of decorum, nor are they rivalled by the French in the talent of agreeable converſation; for which they ſeem to be better calculated, as well from their ſuperior knowledge of the world, as from their more extenſive acquaintance with books and literature.

When you are told, that on the firſt introduction to a lady in this country, you are favoured with a ſalute, which immediately diſcovers the fragrance of her breath, the downy velvet of her ſkin, and pearly enamel of her teeth; that the firſt word which ſhe utters to you is either *My good friend*, or *My dear ſir*, which, ſoftened by the ſweetneſs of her voice, and affability of her manner, muſt receive an additional degree of warmth and kindneſs; can you wonder that I am ſo enamoured with their company? or rather, do you not wonder that I can think of leaving them? But alas! alas! the time approaches for my departure; and if it was not for one dear object, who attracts me, like the faithful ſteel, to the magic circle of her arms, it would be with the utmoſt regret I ſhould bid farewell to a country, which is the land of pleaſure, rapture, and delight.

But

But ſuppoſe you ſhould ſay, that theſe words, though very pleaſing at firſt on account of their novelty, muſt ſoon loſe their charm, when we come to be acquainted that they are mere words of cuſtom and ceremony, and uttered without any intention of good-will or ſincerity; and that expreſſions of kindneſs, when they are not known to be the marks and effects of kindneſs, are empty ſounds; I muſt grant, that by degrees they become habitual, and do not operate ſo ſtrongly by uſe, as on a ſtranger. But ſurely, at any time they are the higheſt ſigns of complaiſance; and giving the appearance of truth to actions, and a ſtrong deſire to pleaſe and oblige, certainly produce a partiality for the ſpeaker: not by the words, which in common ſpeech ſignify ſcarce any thing; but becauſe by theſe words he ſhews that he thinks you worth notice. Expreſſions of this nature are ingenious flattery. It makes thoſe, to whom it is paid, flatter themſelves, whilſt they look on it as a declaration of merit in themſelves: and pray, what mortal man does not love to be flattered by a lady? For my own part, if it is a fault, I muſt plead guilty; and though I deteſt it as much as hypocriſy in the male part of our ſpecies, I am not proof againſt it when aſſiſted by the fire of ſparkling eyes, and delivered by female eloquence. A ſtaunch philoſo-

pher would derive this credulity from the original perverſeneſs of human nature; and in the ſame manner as Adam ſwallowed the forbidden fruit, though he knew it contained none of thoſe excellent qualities aſcribed to it by Eve; ſo we, his progeny, are tempted by the flattery of the fair ſex, and are ſure to give it credit, notwithſtanding we are conſcious of its untruth and inſincerity.

The Scotch language has one beauty, in which it greatly excels the Engliſh, and in which alſo it conforms to the Italian; that of diminutives, which are created at pleaſure, and expreſſed in one word, by the addition of a letter or ſyllable. Thus, they ſay "manny, doggy, catty," for a little man, dog, or cat; "wifey" for a little wife; and if it was neceſſary to ſpeak of an inanimate thing, they do it alſo in the ſame manner; as "a buckley, knifey, booky, houſey," for a little buckle, knife, book, and houſe. I need not tell you how emphatical this makes their tongue, and what an improvement it is on ours. But their pronunciation and accent is far from being agreeable. It gives an air of gravity, ſedateneſs, and importance to their words; which though of uſe ſometimes in an harangue or public diſcourſe, in common converſation ſeems dull, heavy, ſtupid, and unharmonious. On which account I ſcarcely ever heard a Scotch-

a Scotchman tell a good ſtory in all my life; for notwithſtanding he might put in all the circumſtances to work it to a point, he would be ſure to ſpoil it by his deficiency in manner, and remove the ſting, which ought to tickle the imagination of the hearer, by appearing not to feel it himſelf. The inhabitants of this place, who are acquainted with the Engliſh, are ſenſible of this, and endeavour to ſpeak like them, eſpecially the politer ſort of people, and the Profeſſors of the College, who, in their lectures, ſtrive to ſhake off the Scotch pronunciation as much as poſſible. The literary productions of this country being well known, it is unneceſſary for me to make any obſervations on their ſtyle. I ſhall only ſay, that they appear to me, from their converſation, to write Engliſh as a foreign tongue; their mode of talking, phraſe, and expreſſion, but little reſembling the language of their works; though I cannot but add, that even ſome of them, in their converſation, are fond of ſhewing their learning, by making uſe of words derived from ancient languages. Amenity is a favourite word of a celebrated hiſtorian, who is truly the boaſt of his country; who, in private reputation has as few equals, as in public, ſuperiors; and whoſe works may be juſtly ſaid to be "non ludi-

era cantilena ad momentum temporis, ſed monumentum ad æternitatem."

TOPHAM.

SECT. LXXIII.

OF THE SUPPERS OF THE SCOTCH, AND THEIR MANNER OF CONDUCTING THEM.

A MAN who viſits this country, after having been in France, will find, in a thouſand inſtances, the reſemblance which there is betwixt theſe two nations. That air of mirth and vivacity, that quick and penetrating look, that ſpirit of gaiety which diſtinguiſhes the French, is equally viſible in the Scotch. It is the character of the nation; and it is a very happy one, as it makes them diſregard even their poverty. Where there is any material difference, I believe, it may be attributed to the difference of their religion; for that ſame catholic religion, to ſay the truth of it, is a moſt comfortable one. The article of abſolution is certainly a bleſſed invention, and renders the ſpirits free and unclouded, by placing all the burthen of our

our ſins upon another man's back. A poor Engliſhman goes fretting and groaning, and carrying his miſerable face into all companies, as contagious as an epidemical diſorder, without one ſoul to take compaſſion on him, or pity his weakneſs: and ſhould he not have a wife or family at home who cannot avoid him, he finds no perſon who will bear his infirmities, or look as ſad as he does; but is conſtrained to wander about an unſociable being, till the month of November, and the *maladie Angloiſe* relieve him from his diſtreſſes.

But though the Scotch have no abſolution, they have ſomething very like it—a ſuperſtitious reliance on the efficacy of going conſtantly to church. Many of them may be ſaid to paſs half their lives there; for they go almoſt without ceaſing, and look as ſorrowful at the time as if they were going, not only to bury their ſins, but themſelves. At other hours, they are as chearful and as gay as poſſible; and probably, from hence ariſes that eaſe, that ſpirit in their converſation, which charms in every company, and which is the life of every ſociety. They ſee no harm in innocent familiarity. They think a frank and unreſtrained behaviour the beſt ſign of a good heart; and agree with Lord Shafteſbury, "that gravity is the very eſſence of impoſture."

Whenever the Scotch of both ſexes meet, they do not appear as if they had never ſeen each other before, or wiſhed never to ſee each other again. They do not ſit in ſullen ſilence, looking on the ground, biting their nails, and at a loſs what to do with themſelves; and if ſome one ſhould be hardy enough to break ſilence, ſtart, as if they were ſhot through the ear with a piſtol. But they addreſs each other at firſt ſight, and with an *impreſſement* that is highly pleaſing. They appear to be ſatisfied with one another, or at leaſt, if they really are not ſo, they have the prudence to conceal their diſlike. To ſee them in perfection, is to ſee them at their entertainments.

When dinners are given here, they are invitations of form. The entertainment of pleaſure is their ſuppers, which reſemble the petit ſoupers of France. Of theſe they are very fond; and it is a mark of their friendſhip to be admitted to be of the party. It is in theſe meetings that the pleaſures of ſociety and converſation reign, when the reſtraints of ceremony are baniſhed, and you ſee people really as they are: and I muſt ſay, in honour of the Scotch, that I never met with a more agreeable people, with more pleaſing or more inſinuating manners, in my life. Theſe little parties generally conſiſt of about ſeven or eight perſons, which

which prevents the converſation from being particular, and which it always muſt be in larger companies. During the ſupper, which continues ſome time, the Scotch ladies drink more wine than an Engliſh woman could well bear; but the climate requires it, and probably in ſome meaſure it may enliven their natural vivacity. Without quoting foreign authorities, you will allow that a certain degree of wine adds great life to converſation. An Engliſhman, we know, is ſometimes eſteemed the beſt companion in the world after the ſecond bottle; and who, before that, would not have opened his lips for the univerſe. After ſupper is removed, and they are tired of converſing, they vary the ſcene by ſinging, in which many of the Scotch excel. There is a plaintive ſimplicity in the generality of their ſongs, to which the words are extremely well adapted, and which, from the mouth of a pretty Scotch girl, is inconceivably attracting. You frequently feel the force of thoſe very expreſſions, that at another time you would not underſtand, when they are ſung by a young perſon, whoſe inclinations and affections are frequently expreſſed in the terms made uſe of, and which the heart claims as its own. The eye, the whole countenance, ſpeak frequently as much as the voice; for I

have ſometimes found that I had a very juſt idea of the tenor of a ſong, though I did not comprehend three words in the whole. Formerly it was the cuſtom for the bagpipe to play during their entertainments, and every family had their bard. In theſe ſongs were rehearſed the martial and heroic deeds of their anceſtors, as incentives to their own courage; but in theſe piping times of peace, "our ſtern alarms are changed to merry meetings," and tales of love and gentleneſs have ſucceeded to thoſe of war. Inſtead of the drowſy hum of a bagpipe, which would certainly have laid my noble courage aſleep, the voice of ſome pretty girl claims your attention, which in my opinion, is no bad change. I muſt confeſs, I have not much opinion of thoſe feaſts "of other times," where your ears were continually ſtunned with the murders ſuch a man had committed, and where he was continually told of what he had already done, that he might perform the ſame again. His modeſty muſt certainly be put out of the queſtion, otherwiſe he could never have ſat to hear a detail of his own deeds. It is obſerved of a Welch hero, "that he was a devout man, a great warrior, and an excellent piper; and that he could play with great ſkill, the ſongs of all his actions." This is ſtill better—With ſuch authority, ought

any

any man to be blamed for talking of himſelf, and being the hero of his own tale? While every one is railing at the preſent times, it is ſome conſolation to find, that in many inſtances our forefathers were as abſurd as we are; and that if we poſſeſs little, we have at leaſt the negative merit of not boaſting of what we have. I own I feel a pleaſure in reconciling us to ourſelves; for as ſome ingenious writers have proved that we are every way inferior to our anceſtors, ſince we cannot riſe to them, the only way left is to bring them down to us.

TOPHAM.

SECT. LXXIV.

ON THE CIVILITY OF THE COMMON PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND.

I FIND the vulgar inhabitants of this country as varying in their diſpoſitions from thoſe of the ſouthern parts of Great Britain, as the Æthiopians from the natives of Mexico, and as unlike, as if they were Antipodes. Though Scotland

and England together are very minute in compariſon with any of the countries on the European Continent, yet you cannot conceive a greater diſſimilarity of manners; and ſo wide is the difference, that you would think the diſtance between them was from heaven to earth. I ſpeak of the common people only; for the poliſhed and polite are nearly the ſame in many reſpects.

Inſtead of that ſtubborn rudeneſs, and uncouth mind, that ſhyneſs and barbariſm, which is even cultivated by our peaſants, you find in the loweſt hind in Scotland a compliant obſequiouſneſs and ſoftneſs of temper, an ambition to oblige, and a ſociability which charms you. They are naturally grave, hoſpitable, and friendly; and have ſuch a peculiar attachment to their own country and families, that, were I to relate to you the wonderful accounts which I have liſtened to with aſtoniſhment, you could not but think that I was bordering on romance.

But what diſtinguiſhes them from the vulgar inhabitants of almoſt any nation, is that peculiar deſire to oblige and inſtruct; a philanthropy which they diſcover, on all occaſions, to be of ſervice and to do good, and which never can fail of rendering their intercourſe and converſation moſt agreeable

agreeable, and of the greateſt utility to the traveller.

In a wild and uncultivated country, in a miſerable hovel, deſtitute of every convenience of life, expoſed to all the inclemencies of climate, without common neceſſaries to drag on a wretched, uncomfortable being, it is here you meet with ſouls generous, contented, and happy, ever ready to the call of humanity, religious and charitable.

In a ſhort tour that I lately made to the Highlands, an opportunity preſented itſelf of making my obſervations on the minds of this people; ſince I mixed with them, converſed on variety of ſubjects, lived in their families, and paſſed with them many a happy hour. As I frequently wandered over the mountains with my gun, I often found a ſequeſtered village, which had little communication with the reſt of mankind, that had received ſcarce any form or faſhion from art and human invention; and conſequently, not far remote from its original ſimplicity. One day a ſtorm drove me to ſeek ſhelter in a ſmall cottage, which I by chance eſpied in a deep valley at the foot of one of their mountains; and on entering, I ſaw a venerable old woman, with another about thirty, and five or ſix pretty infants, which, by their reſemblance, I eaſily diſcovered to be her children; all

employed in ſome domeſtic concern, and waiting the return of the maſter of the family, who, I afterwards found, was gone to provide fiſh and other neceſſaries, from a ſmall town on the banks of the neighbouring lake. When they perceived me at the door, the mother of the little ones came immediately to meet me, and, with a countenance full of benevolence and hoſpitality, ſaluted me in the Earſe language; which, though I did not underſtand it, ſeemed to welcome me to whatever they could afford, or I could expect to find there. She then reached me a ſtool, which was made of ruſhes, ſeeing I did not comprehend her tongue, and was pointing to me to ſit down by the fire, when I addreſſed myſelf to the old lady in the corner, and demanded whether ſhe could ſpeak Engliſh; but they all ſhook their heads and were ſilent. I then unloaded my game-bag, which contained a white hare, and ſome ptarmigan, and began to court their good opinion, by preſenting them to the children, and endeavouring to divert them, by ſhewing them my ſhooting implements, and other things which I had in my pocket, and which ſeemed to give them much delight; the woman, in the mean time, making ſigns to me to pull off my wet cloaths, and holding out a plaid which they had warmed by the fire. On my ſeeming to

refuſe

refuſe their kind offices, they ſhook themſelves, and looked ſorrowful, which meant, as I ſince learned, if I did not change my dreſs, I ſhould catch an ague; a diſorder to which they were extremely ſubject.

As the weather continued to threaten, and night was not far off, I ſat myſelf down by the hearth and amuſed myſelf by pulling off the feathers of one of the birds, which I made them comprehend would be very acceptable, as I had eat nothing almoſt the whole day; and juſt as I was preparing to broil it, the highlander opened the door, and, expreſſing his ſurpriſe at finding a ſtranger had taken poſſeſſion of his houſehold goods, in a free and good-natured tone of voice, in the Scotch language, begged of me to proceed in my employ, and enquired the reaſon of this viſit; adding, with a ſmile, "that I muſt have entertained his wife and mother extremely well during his abſence, to become ſo familiar with them; eſpecially as they did not underſtand me, and had never in their lives beheld the face of any human perſon, except a few of their own Clan, who inhabited the other ſide of the hill."

When I had told him my ſtory, and intreated pardon for the freedom I had taken, he embraced me with the higheſt degree of rapture, and order-

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ing the others to do the ſame, told me, "the gentleman with whom I had been, and to whoſe houſe I wiſhed to return the next day, was the head of his Clan; that he reſpected him, and would die for him; and ſince I was a viſitor to the Laird, I claimed from him every kind of hoſpitality and convenience, which his poor pittance could ſupply; though he added, as a ſtranger, who had loſt my way, I had a right to civility and aſſiſtance from every man."

When I had finiſhed my ptarmigan, of which they would none of them partake, he produced on the table ſome dried fiſh, cheeſe, and oat-cake, of which they all eat with an appetite that diſcovered their poverty, and that brought to my remembrance the ſaying of the philoſopher, that "He that eats with an empty ſtomach needs no variety of food; he that drinks only for thirſt deſires leaſt change of liquor; and he that wants leaſt, comes neareſt to the gods." On our being ſatisfied, he gave ſome to the infants, and ſaid a grace in the preſbyterian form, praiſing God with more fervent devotion than ever I met with in an Engliſh biſhop at the adminiſtration of the ſacrament.

The reſt of the night we ſpent in converſation, whilſt they plied me heartily with whiſkey; and I anſwered

anſwered a number of queſtions which were demanded of me by the women, through him as interpreter; till at length, over-powered by fatigue, I repoſed myſelf in a plaid by the fire, and enjoyed as ſound a ſlumber, as if my head had been pillowed on down,

"Under a canopy of coſtly ſtate."

The morning aroſe, and I took farewell of my kind hoſteſſes, who parted with me, with many expreſſions of friendſhip; and, if I may judge from their countenance, wiſhed that the ſtormy weather had continued, that I might have been detained longer. The highlander accompanied me acroſs the mountains in my progreſs homeward, cheating the drearineſs of the way by his entertaining diſcourſe, concerning the antiquity of his family, and the anceſtors of his Laird, whom he had followed in the rebellion, and under whoſe banners he had ventured his life and fortune. We had now arrived within ſight of the houſe of my friend, when he wiſhed me health and ſucceſs through life, and that I might never go further out of my right way, than when I wandered to his habitation. I paid this kindneſs with all the coin I was then maſter of, and parted with a thouſand thanks and gratitude for his civilities.

I have

I have detained you all this while with this length of ſtory, in order to paint to you the true character of a Scotch peaſant; and I dare ſay you will be aſtoniſhed to find ſo many virtues in a family in the Highlands, where the inhabitants are thought by us to be in a ſtate of barbariſm. But ſuch, I aſſure you, they all are,

" Extrema per illos,
" Juſtitia excedens terris veſtigia fecit."

Even in Edinburgh, the ſame ſpirit runs through the common people, who are infinitely more civil, humanized, and hoſpitable, than any I ever met with. Every one is ready to ſerve and aſſiſt a ſtranger; they ſhew the greateſt reſpect to a perſon ſuperior to them, and you never receive an impertinent anſwer. As to their country, it is beautiful and grand to a miracle, and though far from being temperate, is ſo healthy, that you hear of fewer diſorders than amongſt any other people; and I declare, in every part that I have been, I never ſaw either an exceedingly deformed perſon, or an aged, toothleſs, paralytic highlander. They eat a great quantity of fiſh dried in the ſun, and a cake made of oatmeal, baked hard and flat. Their conſtant liquor is whiſkey, which is alſo made from oats, has a quick taſte, extremely heady, but comfortable

ble to the ſtomach; unpalatable to ſtrangers, though hot and nouriſhing to thoſe that are uſed to it.

TOPHAM.

SECT. LXXV.

OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DIVERSIONS OF THE INHABITANTS OF EDINBURGH; AND MANNER OF EDUCATING THE YOUNG LADIES.

THEY have at Edinburgh an elegant Playhouſe, and tolerable performers; aſſemblies, concerts, public gardens, and walks, card parties, and a hundred other diverſions, which in ſome degree keep me from pining for your Feſtino, Bach's concert, or Almack's.

As the genius of any people is not more eaſily diſcovered in their ſerious moments, than when they give a looſe to freedom and pleaſure; ſo the Scotch nation is peculiarly characterized by the mode of their diverſions. A ſober ſedate elegance pervades them all, blended with an eaſe and propriety which delights, and is ſure to meet with approbation. A Scotchman does not relax himſelf

ſelf for amuſements, as if to paſs away the hour. He ſeems, even in the heighth of pleaſure, buſy and intent, and as he would do, were he about to gain ſome advantage. His diverſions are not calculated to ſeduce the unwary, or recreate the idle, but to unbend the mind, without corrupting it. He ſeems as if in his infancy he had been taught to make learning his diverſion, and was now re-reverſing it, and making his diverſion his ſtudy.

But beſides the public entertainments of this city, which are derived from company, the inhabitants have more reſources of pleaſure within themſelves than in many other places. The young people paint, draw, are fond of muſic, or employ their hours in reading, and acquiring the accompliſhments of the mind. Every boarding-ſchool Miſs has ſomething of this kind to recommend her, and make her an agreeable companion; and inſtead of a little ſmattering of French, which is the higheſt ambition to attain in Queen's Square, you find them in Edinburgh entertaining in converſation, ſentimental, and well-informed. The mode of education of the young ladies, is here highly to be commended, and admirably calculated to make them good wives. Beſides needle-work, and thoſe trifling arts, which are the principal part of their inſtruction in England, the precepts of morality, virtue,

virtue, and honour, are taught them from their earlieſt infancy, whilſt they are inſtructed to conſider themſelves as beings born for ſociety, for more than outſide appearance, and tranſitory pleaſure, and to attend to the knowledge of what is uſeful, rather than the œconomy of a tambour-frame. The ladies alſo who undertake this arduous taſk of inſtruction, are perſons much better qualified in general than in other countries. They likewiſe introduce them into the politeſt company, and give them a taſte for elegant and proper amuſements; ſo that when they leave ſchool, they are not only miſtreſſes of thoſe accompliſhments which are neceſſary to command a family, but have the deportment and behaviour of experienced women of faſhion.

No ladies in Scotland ever murder the precious moments in what is called "work," which is neither entertainment nor profit, merely becauſe they muſt have the appearance of doing ſomething, whilſt they ſee every one employed around them. They let no minute eſcape without its reſpective office, which may be of utility to themſelves or others; and after a proper ſacrifice to reading and literature, gain inſtruction from ſociety and converſation.

I have often thought it a principal defect in the education

education of the Engliſh ladies, that they are taught to pay ſo much attention to the practice of ſewing work, and other needle operations, whilſt they neglect learning of greater importance and pleaſure. Since they have minds equally capable of inſtruction with the other ſex, why ſhould they not be enlightened with the ſame kind of knowledge? eſpecially as they ſeem more ſuited to it, as well from their ſuperior ſenſibility, as their greater leiſure and domeſtic life. Why ſhould the characteriſtic which diſtinguiſhes us from brutes, be ſo ſtrongly cultivated in the male, and have ſo little attention paid to it in the female ſpecies? Wiſdom and ſcience are not perfections in us merely becauſe we are men, but as reaſonable creatures, who have the pre-eminence over the reſt of the creation. It is indeed neceſſary for the ladies to know theſe things, in order to qualify them for domeſtic œconomy; but I have no idea of any woman, except her whoſe circumſtances cannot afford the expence of paying a ſervant, making them her employ, or putting them in practice.

The married ladies of this city ſeldom entertain large ſets of company, or have routs as in London. They give the preference to private parties, and *converſaziones*, where they play at cards for ſmall ſums, and never run the riſk of being obliged to diſcharge

diſcharge a debt of honour at the expence of their virtue and innocence. They often frequent the theatre, and ſhew great taſte and judgment in the choice of plays, where Mr. Digges performs a principal character.

As to exerciſe, they ſeldom ride on horſeback; but find much pleaſure in walking, to which the ſoil and country is peculiarly adapted, being dry, pleaſant, and abounding in proſpects and romantic ſcenes. It is likewiſe cuſtomary for them to drive in their carriages to the ſands at Leith and Muſſelburgh, and parade backwards and forwards, after the manner of Scarborough, and other public places of ſea-bathing reſort. For vivacity and agility in dancing, none excel the Scotch ladies. Their execution in reels and country-dances is amazing; and the variety of ſteps which they introduce, and the juſtneſs of their ear is beyond deſcription. They are very fond alſo of minuets, but fall greatly ſhort in the performance of them, as they are deficient in grace and elegance in their motions. Many of them play on the harpſichord and guitar, and ſome have muſic in their voices, though they rather love to hear others perform than play themſelves.

I do not think the Scotch ladies are great proficients in the languages. They rarely attempt

any

any thing further than the French; which, indeed, they ſpeak with great propriety, fluency, and good accent; but they make up for it by their accurate and juſt knowledge of their own. They talk very grammatically, are peculiarly attentive to the conformity of their words to their ideas, and are great critics in the Engliſh tongue. They chiefly read hiſtory and plaintive poetry; but elegies and paſtorals are their favourites. Novels and romances they feel and admire; and thoſe chiefly which are tender, ſympathetic, ſoothing, or melancholy.—Their hearts are ſoft and full of paſſion, and a well-told ſtory makes a deep impreſſion on them. Like virgin wax, a gentle heat mollifies their minds, which reflects the fineſt touches of art and ſentiment.

Nor are the gentlemen in Edinburgh leſs rational in their diverſions than the ladies. There is only one in which I can cenſure their conduct. They rather pay too much reſpect to the divinity of Bacchus, and offer too copious libations at the ſhrine of that jovial deity. Their wines, indeed, of all kinds are excellent, and their climate not the moſt comfortable; ſo that ſome allowance ought to be made them in that reſpect. But as they are, they are by no means ſo intemperate as the Germans; and, perhaps, their appearing to me in the leaſt

leaſt intemperate, may be occaſioned by my peculiar averſion to, and abſtinence from all intoxicating liquors. I have neither taſte to reliſh, nor head to bear them. I have no idea of a man extending the pleaſure of drinking beyond thirſt, or forcing, in imagination, an appetite artificial, and againſt nature.

The youths in this country are very manly in their exerciſes and amuſements. Strength and agility ſeem to be moſt their attention. The inſignificant paſtimes of marbles, tops, &c. they are totally unacquainted with. The diverſion which is peculiar to Scotland, and in which all ages find great pleaſure, is golf. They play at it with a ſmall leathern ball, like a fives ball, and a piece of wood, flat on one ſide, in the ſhape of a ſmall bat, which is faſtened at the end of a ſtick, of three or four feet long, at right angles to it. The art conſiſts in ſtriking the ball with this inſtrument, into a hole in the ground, in a ſmaller number of ſtrokes than your adverſary. This game has the ſuperiority of cricket and tennis, in being leſs violent and dangerous; but in point of dexterity and amuſement, by no means to be compared with them. However, I am informed that ſome ſkill and nicety are neceſſary to ſtrike the ball to the propoſed diſtance and no further, and that in this there is a conſiderable difference

difference in players. It requires no great exertion and ſtrength, and all ranks and ages play at it. They inſtruct their children in it, as ſoon as they can run alone, and grey hairs boaſt their execution. As to their other diverſions, they dance, play at cards, love ſhooting, hunting, and the pleaſures of the field; but are proficients in none of them. When they are young, indeed, they dance, in the manner of their country, extremely well; but afterwards (to ſpeak in the language of the turf) they train off, and are too robuſt and muſcular to poſſeſs either grace or agility.

TOPHAM.

SECT. LXXVI.

OF THE HAGUE AND ROTTERDAM.

NOTHING can be more agreeable than travelling in Holland. The whole country appears a large garden; the roads are well paved, ſhaded on each ſide with rows of trees, and bordered with large canals, full of boats paſſing and repaſſing. Every twenty paces gives you the proſpect of ſome villa,

villa, and every four hours that of a large town, ſo ſurpriſingly neat, I am ſure you would be charmed with them. The Hague is certainly one of the fineſt villages in the world. Here are ſeveral ſquares finely built, and (what I think a particular beauty) the whole ſet with thick large trees. The *Voor-hout* is, at the ſame time, the Hyde-Park and Mall of the people of quality; for they take the air in it both on foot and in coaches.

The appearance of Rotterdam gives one very great pleaſure. All the ſtreets are paved with broad ſtones, and before many of the meaneſt artificers doors are placed ſeats of various coloured marbles, ſo neatly kept, that I aſſure you I walked almoſt over the town yeſterday, *incognito*, in my ſlippers, without receiving one ſpot of dirt; and you may ſee the Dutch maids waſhing the pavement of the ſtreets with more application than ours do our bed-chambers.

The town ſeems ſo full of people, with ſuch buſy faces, all in motion, that I can hardly fancy it is not ſome celebrated fair; but I ſee it is every day the ſame. It is certain no town can be more advantageouſly ſituated for commerce. Here are ſeven large canals, on which the merchants ſhips come up to the very doors of their houſes. The ſhops and warehouſes are of a ſurpriſing neatneſs

and magnificence, filled with an incredible quantity of fine merchandiſe, and ſo much cheaper than what we ſee in England, that I have much ado to perſuade myſelf I am ſtill ſo near it. Here is neither dirt nor beggary to be ſeen. One is not ſhocked with thoſe loathſome cripples ſo common in London, nor teazed with the importunity of idle perſons that chuſe to be naſty and lazy. The common ſervants and little ſhop-women here are more nicely clean than ſome of our Ladies; and the great variety of neat dreſſes (every woman dreſſing her head after her own faſhion) is an additional pleaſure in ſeeing the town.

LADY M. W. MONTAGUE.

SECT. LXXVII.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF ROTTERDAM AND THE HAGUE. A. D. 1784.

ROTTERDAM lies on the north ſide of the Maeſe, about fifteen miles from the ſea, is of a triangular form, and, in point of trade, inferior only to Amſterdam; in the ſpaciouſneſs of the ſtreets,

ſtreets, and elegance of the houſes, infinitely beyond it. The canals are ſo large as to admit ſhips of two or three hundred tons, even to the very doors of the merchants; and I know not ſo romantic a ſight, as to ſee from the environs, the chimnies, maſts of ſhips, and the tops of trees, ſo promiſcuouſly huddled together, that it would acquire a degree of divination to tell whether it is a town, a fleet, or a foreſt.

The grandeſt, as well as moſt agreeable ſtreet in Rotterdam, is the Bomb Quay, which lies parallel with the Maeſe. On one ſide it is open to the river, and the other is ornamented with a grand facade of the beſt houſes in the city, inhabited chiefly by the Engliſh. They are five or ſix ſtories high, maſſy, and very clumſy. Wherever there is any attempt at ornament, it is the worſt that can be conceived. One ſees no Grecian architecture, except Doric entablatures, ſtuck upon the top of the upper ſtory, without pilaſters; Ionic volutes, turned often the wrong way, and an attempt at Corinthian capitals, without any other part of the order. The doors are large, and ſtuck with great knobs and clumſy carving. You aſcend to them, not in front, but by three or four ſteps going up on each ſide, and you are aſſiſted by iron rails of a moſt immenſe

thickneſs. Theſe houſes are almoſt all window, and the window ſhutters and frames being painted green, the glaſs has all a green caſt, which is helped by the reflection from the trees that overſhadow their houſes, which, were it not for this circumſtance, would be intolerably hot, from their vicinity to the canals. Moſt of the houſes have looking-glaſſes placed on the outſides of the windows, on both ſides, in order that they may ſee every thing which paſſes up and down the ſtreet. The ſtair-caſes are narrow, ſteep, and come down almoſt to the door. The Bomb Quay is ſo broad, that there are diſtinct walks for carriages and foot paſſengers, lined and ſhaded with a double row of trees. You look over the river on ſome beautiful meadows, and a fine avenue of trees, which leads to the Peſt-houſe. It ſeems to be an elegant building, and the trees round it are ſo diſpoſed as to appear a thick wood.

This ſtreet is at leaſt half a mile in length, and extends from the Old to the New Head, the two places where the water enters to fill the canals of this extenſive city. I muſt obſerve, that when water runs through a ſtreet, it then aſſumes the name of a canal, of which kind the Heerenſleet has the pre-eminence. The houſes are of free-ſtone, and very lofty; the canal is ſpacious,

and

and covered with ſhips. At one end ſtands the Engliſh church, a neat pretty building, of which the biſhop of London is Ordinary.

Upon the Great Bridge, in the Grand Market-place, is the ſtatue of that wonderful man Eraſmus. It is bigger than the life, in braſs, and clad in a Doctor's gown. He was born in 1467, and died at Friburg in Alſace, in the year 1536.

Near to the market-place is the great church of St. Laurence. From the tower I had as extenſive a view as my eye could command, there being neither hill nor wood to interrupt my ſight. I ſaw Delft and the Hague to the north; Dort, to the South; Brill, to the weſt; Amſterdam, to the eaſt, and Utrecht lies off to the ſouth-eaſt.

There are four churches in Rotterdam of the eſtabliſhed religion, which is Calviniſm, and twelve clergymen to attend them, whoſe ſtipends are one hundred and ſeventy pounds per annum each, which is paid out of the revenues of the city. St. Laurence is, like all other Dutch churches, diveſted of ornament; gloomy and dark, by reaſon of the numberleſs atchievements, which are hung every where round the walls, and which are in general of black velvet, with the arms blazoned, encompaſſed in a heavy black frame.

I look on the exchange, which was finiſhed in 1736, to be the fineſt building in Rotterdam. It is a quadrangle of free-ſtone, with a light cloiſter. It is much neater, though not near ſo large as our Royal Exchage. There is, however, no merit in the architecture.

We laſt night hired a coach, which is fixed at a guilder an hour, to take us to Delfts-Hagen, a little village about half an hour's diſtance. The road was very pleaſant, being planted on each ſide with trees. There was nothing ſufficiently curious in the place itſelf to drag us from Rotterdam; but it being a public fair, we wiſhed to ſee the humours of a Dutch Wake. Children's toys and women's ſlippers ſeemed to make the chief figure, there being little elſe to be ſold.

We followed the ſound of a fiddle into a little ale-houſe, and walked up ſtairs into a room full of peaſants and tobacco. There were four girls jumping about, which they called dancing, and thirty or forty men ſitting round with their pipes and tobacco, admiring the activity of the nymphs, and rolling out ſuch clouds of ſmoke, that we were ſoon obliged to withdraw to avoid ſuffocation. From thence we went to a barn to ſee a Dutch tragedy and farce. Two of the actreſſes were

were tolerably pretty. But Dutch, even from the mouth of beauty, would be an antidote to love.

Leaving Rotterdam, we went to Delft in the treckſchuyte, and walked through the town to the Hague-gate, where we found the boat juſt ready to puſh off. The canal from thence to Ryſwick is ſkirted with rows of elms. Inſtead of going on to the Hague, we got out at the bridge, and walked down to the village, at about half a mile's diſtance. The palace is old, unrepaired and unfurniſhed; famous only for the peace made there, ſo advantageous to the Dutch, by the confederate powers of Europe with Lewis XIV. in 1697. The Prince now and then comes there for half an hour, and amuſes himſelf with courſing hares in the court yard, which is within a wall about fifty yards ſquare. A very princely recreation!

We dined at the Strack-huis, and met with a comfortable repaſt, which we little expected in ſuch a place. In the cool of the evening we walked to the Hague, at the diſtance of two ſhort miles, under the ſhade of a row of elms.

The Hague in French, *la Haye*, *the Hedge*, is only a village, not being walled, nor ſending deputies to the ſtates. Nevertheleſs, it is the reſidence of all the foreign ambaſſadors, the ſeat of government, and, without diſpute, the moſt beau-

tiful place upon earth. On the ſouth ſide lies Delft, on the north the houſe in the Wood, Scheveling, and the ſea to the weſt, and the great canal to Leyden on the eaſt.

The Hague is totally ſurrounded with a canal, over which are many bridges, and a row of lofty trees borders the water's edge. The ſtreets are ſo ſpacious, and ſo much adorned with trees and water, that you can ſcarce conceive yourſelf in a town; and there are ſo many ſquares and public places laid out in ſhady walks, and ſurrounded with ſuch magnificent buildings, that it beggars all deſcription.

I will mention two or three of the moſt ſtriking parts of the Hague, among which I think the Vyverburg has the pre-eminence. It is a kind of ſquare, conſiſting of ſeveral ſhady walks; on one ſide, a row of magnificent houſes; on the other, the Vyver, which is a large baſon of water, faced with ſtone, two hundred yards in length, and near one hundred in breadth. In the center of it is an iſland planted with trees. One end of the Vyverburg opens to the Voor-hout, which is a large plantation of trees, in the middle of which is the Mall, railed in on both ſides. It is ſtrewed with ſhells, as are all the walks in Holland, there being neither ſtone nor gravel in the whole country.

try. The walks are conſequently unpleaſant, as the ſhells never bind, but crumble into duſt, and feel like looſe ſand under your feet.

The New Princeſs Graft is a row of palaces, rather than of houſes, which front the wood, from which they are divided by a broad pavement and a canal. Caſuari-ſtreet is adjoining, in which is the French Playhouſe, a neat little theatre. We were at the Comedy on Friday evening. The actors were tolerably good.

I muſt not omit mentioning the Prince Graft, which is half a mile in length, proportionably broad, and perfectly ſtraight, with a canal ſhaded with trees, running through the midſt of it, over which are thrown many fine ſtone bridges, with iron rails on them.

One of the greateſt curioſities in the Hague, is the Prince's Cabinet, which is open at twelve o'clock on Fridays, and acceſſible to all ſtrangers, who previouſly ſend their names. This houſe was purchaſed of the Counteſs of Albemarle, faces the Vyver, and is ſituated at the corner of the Outer Court, where the horſe-guards parade.

In the firſt room you ſee a ſmall, but moſt excellent collection of Chineſe ſwords, knives, and other inſtruments in gold, richly inlaid with precious ſtones; and ear-rings, bracelets, and much

female ornament and apparel. In the next apartment is a good collection of ſhells, among which the Concha Veneris did not eſcape my notice; the ſhape being entirely analagous to the name.

In the third room is a brilliant ſhew of precious ſtones, foſſils, minerals, and petrifactions. The fourth apartment is filled with various kinds of ſerpents and ſmall animals; and the laſt room is ornamented with a large collection of birds extremely well preſerved.

Theſe are the beſt part of the Cabinet, and there are many rare ſpecies among them; but the collection is now eclipſed by that which has been ſince collected by Sir Aſhton Lever, and is now exhibited at London by Mr. Parkinſon.

The diſpoſition and neatneſs of the whole is admirable, and well worthy of a ſtranger's attention.

The palace of the Stadtholder is ſituated in the center of the town, ſurrounded by a moat. Its external appearance is not very ſtriking, being an old irregular building; but a finer collection of pictures by the Dutch and Flemiſh maſters I have never ſeen; eſpecially in a little room called the Study, filled by the moſt capital painters.

The Virgin, with the bleſſed Infant in her arms, by Raphael; Adam and Eve in Paradiſe,

ſurrounded

ſurrounded with birds and beaſts, by Brughel; Portraits, by Rembrandt, Vandyke, and Hans-Holbein. A Dutch kitchen full of game, fiſh, and fleſh, moſt admirably done, by Teniers. Many landſcapes and fancy pieces, by Gabriel Metzu, Jan-Steen, Potter, and Wouvermans. I look on this room to be complete. There is not a picture but may be dwelt on with delight.

In the other apartments, among many fine pieces, you will find a very large one by Potter, painted in 1647. The deſign is a peaſant looking at his cattle. The flies on the cows ſeem alive, and a toad ſitting on the graſs has equal excellence.

Abraham ſacrificing Iſaac, in ivory, is inimitably carved.

There are ſome fruit and game pieces by Weeninx, well done; and ſome excellent pieces on copper, by Rothenamer.

At a church near the Hague we ſaw many ſtorks walking about as tame as our turkies. They are ſomewhat in ſhape like a heron. Their colour is white, and their wings are tipped with black. They live upon the offal of the fiſh-market, which is near the church. I have ſeen numbers of them in the meadows, though they are eſteemed birds of paſſage, and in autumn they are not very common. The vulgar error is, that theſe birds are ſo fond of

liberty, that they will live only in a republic. I am ſure, in point of policy, they cannot live in a more deſirable country, as they have fiſh and frogs in abundance for their food, and the utmoſt ſecurity for themſelves, it being deemed a crime to mal-treat or kill them.

TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND.

SECT. LXXVIII.

OF LEYDEN.

WE went in the treckſchuyte to Leyden with a Dutch General we had lived with at the Table d'Hote at the Hague. The diſtance was only ten miles; but the whole canal being edged with ſummer-houſes and gardens belonging to the inhabitants of thoſe towns, who in the ſummer retire to theſe little boxes, made the ſcene appear moſt beautiful, and the diſtance nothing.

When we arrived at the inn we were recommended to, we found it filled by the French Ambaſſador and his train; and for want of an interpreter

preter we wandered about the town till it was dark, and met with two or three diſagreeable circumſtances, which made me lament my ignorance of the Dutch language; but at length we found the *Golden Ball*, an Engliſh houſe, and with my wants vaniſhed my deſire of talking Dutch.

Leyden is eſteemed, in point of ſize, the ſecond city in Holland, but its trade is now inconſiderable, which in the woollen manufactory was formerly very extenſive. The city is ſurrounded with a rampart and a wide canal. The moſt elegant ſtreet is the Broad-ſtreet, which runs from the Hague-gate to the Utrecht-gate. It is a little on the curve, which adds, I think, much to its beauty. The pavement is extremely fine, and the ſtreet riſes in the center like the new paved ſtreets in London. It is very ſpacious, as indeed are moſt of the ſtreets in Leyden. Among the canals the Rapinbury is the moſt beautiful. The houſes are magnificent; the bridges ſtone, with iron rails; and there are trees on each ſide of the canal. It is ſaid that there are 145 bridges, and 180 ſtreets within the city of Leyden. The Old Rhine runs through this town, and loſes itſelf in the little village of Catwick, which lies in the neighbourhood.

The Univerſity is the moſt renowned of the five which

which are in the United Provinces,* and is the moſt ancient, being founded in 1575, by the States, as a reward to the inhabitants for defending themſelves againſt the Spaniards during a ſix months ſiege, in which they ſuffered all the horrors of war, and extremities of famine.

The Academy abounds with many curioſities. It is there the profeſſors read lectures to the ſtudents who lodge in the town, and are not diſtinguiſhed by any academical habit. It is there that the learned Scaliger, Lipſius, Salmaſius, and Boerhaave gained ſo much reputation by their lectures, and brought ſtudents from all parts of Europe to attend them.

The Botanic Garden has always been one of the moſt reſpectable in Europe, both on account of the famous profeſſors who have preſided over it, and the number of curious exotics growing in it, as may be ſeen in Boerhaave's and Van Royen's catalogues. It is nicely arranged, and kept in excellent order.

On

* The five Univerſities are,

	A. D.
1. Leyden in Holland,	1575
2. Utrecht,	1636
3. Franeker in Frieſland,	1584
4. Groninghen,	1614
5. Harderwick in Guelderland,	1648

On one ſide of theſe gardens is a very curious collection of antique marbles, given by Gerard Papenbrochius, a burgo-maſter of Amſterdam. I cannot omit mentioning the ſtatues of Hercules, of Bacchus leaning on a fawn, attended by a tyger, of an Abundantia, as big as the life, and of a naked Apollo; all which have eſpecial merit.

Adjoining to the ſtatues is the Natural Philoſophy School, in which the lectures are read. You will find in it a good collection of natural curioſities; ſome very fine petrifactions; in particular, a piece of oak, one ſide of which has been poliſhed, and vies both in hardneſs and colour with an agate. Some curious pieces of cryſtal, formed by nature to an apex, with ſix angles, as exact and as finely poliſhed as if the production of art. A fiſh called the Meduſa's Head, from a thouſand little fibres darting out from its body in a circle like twiſted rays. This, in itſelf, is very curious; but the exact repreſentation of it in a natural agate is much more ſo.

But I think one of the greateſt curioſities is the aſbeſtos from Tranſylvania. It is a ſtone with a ſoft down on it like velvet, of a dove colour. Of this is made both paper and linen; we ſaw ſamples of both. The very peculiar property of it is, that fire has no effect on it, for it ſtill continues its form unchanged and unconſumed.

Among

Among the beaſts was an ermine, about the ſize and ſhape of a weaſel. This little animal is ſo fearful of dirtying its ſkin, that it will ſooner loſe its liberty than its cleanlineſs.

There was a kind of toad which brings forth its young from its back. On obſerving it, we perceived infinite numbers of young toads adhering to the back, which appeared like the broken ſcales of a fiſh.

The toad-fiſh from America is an extraordinary creature. It is for the firſt ſix months a toad, then changes by degrees into a fiſh. This had half completed its transformation, having the tail of a fiſh, with the head and fore parts of a toad.

The Penna Marina belongs to the animal ſpecies. It is the production of the ocean, looks like a plant, and is nothing more than a ſtem of about two inces long, with a kind of feather at the end of it, not unlike a quill with part of the feather cut off.

Among the feathered race, the moſt curious was the Hydracorax Indicus; the only one in Europe; larger than a turkey—black, "Roſtro unicorni, cornu recurvo,"——if I may expreſs myſelf in the technical terms of Ornithology.

There was an immenſe beaſt, called the Hippopotamus, as large as an elephant, its colour black, with

with a row of grinders in the interior part of its mouth, beſides a good number in front.

TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND.

SECT. LXXIX.

OF AMSTERDAM.

AMSTERDAM is ſituated on the river Amſtel, and an arm of the ſea called the Y, at the mouth of the Zuyder Sea, and is built in the form of a creſcent. It is fortified with a foſſe of great depth and width, with a rampart of earth faced with brick, ſtrengthened with twenty-ſix baſtions; in each of which ſtands a wind-mill, ornamented with eight magnificent gates of free-ſtone, built either in a ſemi-circular or octagonal ſhape. In all the chief ſtreets are canals ſhaded with trees, the grandeſt of which is the Heere-graft, or canal of Lords. This is the place of reſidence for the bankers and chief merchants; for here every one is in trade. The few nobles of Holland reſide always at the Hague. Thoſe ſtreets in which there

are

are no canals, are vilely narrow. The Neſs, in which we live, I had the curioſity to meaſure, and it is only ſixteen feet wide. The houſes are lofty, and the bridges are chiefly of ſtone.

The ſquares are neither ſpacious nor elegant. The dam is the largeſt, in which the Stadt-houſe is ſituated; but it is irregular, and vilely disfigured by a weighing-houſe. The others no more deſerve the name of ſquares, than Clare-market or Palace-yard, Weſtminſter.

This populous city contained 26,035 houſes in 1732, and is ſuppoſed, according to the beſt calculation, to contain at preſent 250,000 inhabitants, though it was at the beginning of the thirteenth century, an inconſiderable fiſhing village on the edge of a moraſs, which is now covered with buildings, erected upon piles of timber, driven into the earth, at immenſe labour and expence. For the foundation only of one tower, 6000 trees were rammed into the ground. Notwithſtanding theſe precautions, the magiſtrates are ſo apprenſive of the foundations, that very few coaches are licenſed. The carriages in general are fixed on ſledges, drawn by one horſe, the driver attending on foot.

There are fifteen churches of the eſtabliſhed, that is, the Calviniſtic religion, which are ſerved by thirty

thirty miniſters, equal in authority and revenue. They are allowed two hundred and forty pounds per annum each, which is paid by the city.

The moſt ſtupendous undertaking in this city is the Stadt-houſe, which you enter by ſeven ſmall gates, parallel to each other, inſtead of one magnificent portal, equal to a front, which extends itſelf 282 feet, whoſe heighth is 116, and the breadth 232 feet. The building is of ſtone, with pillars of the Corinthian order. It is erected on 13,659 piles of timber, and was finiſhed in 1655. On the top is a ſtatue of Atlas in braſs, bearing on his ſhoulders a copper globe, ſaid to be larger than that of St. Peter's at Rome; and on the center is a cupola, from whence is an extenſive view of the city and its environs. The piles coſt 100,000 l. The whole expence was computed at two millions. Verſailles coſt only 800,000 l.; the Eſcurial, one million; and St. Paul's, one million five hundred thouſand pounds. "It is upon record, that St. Peter's at Rome, with all that is contained in it, has coſt near thirteen millions ſterling."

The cornices of the rooms are finely carved, the floors laid with marble, and the ſides of the apartments lined either with marble or valuable paintings. Over the doors and chimney-pieces are ſeveral hiſtorical pieces in baſſo relievo, inimitably

ably executed in Italian marble; and there are ſome deceptions in a kind of grey painting, to imitate baſſo relievo, (eſpecially of ſome children) by De-Wit, ſo finely touched, that the moſt critical eye at half the diſtance of the room would be deceived.

A large piece, by Vanderhelſt, is deſervedly eſteemed. It is a feaſt given to the Spaniſh Ambaſſador by the Burgo-maſters of Amſterdam, on the making peace between the two countries in 1648. But the beſt piece is by Vandyke, which repreſents an entertainment, where you ſee the portraits of all the conſiderable perſons of the city. An old grey haired man is ſo much admired in this wonderful picture, that ſeven thouſand guilders were offered to cut out the head.

The Stadt-houſe is admirably contrived for public utility. Here is the bank, ſuppoſed to be the richeſt in Europe; here are the courts of juſtice, the priſons for criminals and debtors, the chambers of the Senate, the Treaſury, the magazine of arms, and in ſhort, all the public offices; with eight large ciſterns of water on the top, with pipes to every room to extinguiſh fires. The citizens hall is the grandeſt, being one hundred and twenty feet by fifty-ſeven, and ninety feet high. It is paved with marble, in which are

ſtained

ſtained the terreſtrial and celeſtial globes. The ſides, the roof, and the pillars are all of marble; but there always is a ſomething wanting; —— there is not light enough to admire with accuracy the wonderful magnificence of this apartment.

From the Stadt-houſe you croſs the Dam to the Exchange, which is not to be compared with that of Rotterdam in beauty, nor to our Royal Exchange in ſize. The building is of brick, and at full change, if appearances may be relied on, was crowded with the moſt blackguard fellows on the face of the earth. In the afternoon I paid a ſecond viſit to the Exchange, to ſee the city militia perform their exerciſe; to which every man is ſubject, unleſs he makes a pecuniary compenſation. Thoſe, therefore, who from their poverty cannot, or from their avarice will not pay the fine, are obliged to ſerve. Here penury and parſimony were collected together in ſuch various habits (for they have no regular uniform) as to make the moſt ludicrous group imagination can ſuggeſt. A giant and a dwarf, a Falſtaff and a Slender, a bob wig and a ſhock head of hair, in coats of all the colours of the rainbow, joined moſt heterogeneouſly together to compoſe a rank, in which every man followed his own invention,

in

in as many different attitudes and manœuvres, as there were men to make them.

In the evening we went to the theatre, which, like all play-houſes, our own excepted, is dark, long, and ſmall. The pit is excellent, having ſeats with low backs, and marked with numbers, to diſtinguiſh the ſeat of each perſon, by which, both crowding and diſputes are prevented. This is the only houſe I ever ſaw abroad, in which there are ſeats in the pit, or *parterre*, as it is called. It is under the controul and direction of the city. The magiſtrates receive the money, defray the charges, and pay the actors. The reſidue is applied to the maintenance of the poor, and to the ſupport of the different hoſpitals.

Every rope-dancer, puppet-player, as well as all others who pretend to entertain the public, are obliged to contribute one third of their profits towards the maintenance of the poor.

On Friday we looked into the Raſp-houſe, which is a priſon for criminals, as well as for children who are profligate and diſobedient. The former are confined in a ſmall room, chained to a block, and ſpend their whole time in ſawing or *raſping* Brazil wood, or in other work equally laborious. I was ſhocked at the ſight of ſo many of my ſpecies, naked to the waiſt, worn out with labour,

labour, pale with confinement, and emaciated by want. Yet how much wiſer this method than the Engliſh law, which, for thirteen pence deprives a man of his life, and the king of a ſubject, whom the Dutch ſhew us may be made uſeful to the public.

From thence we went to the Spin-houſe, for the correction, but not, I think, for the amendment of looſe women, as every one is permitted to ſee and converſe with them through the rails, which can only harden them in impudence. We walked into the New Church to ſee a burial. In this nation of induſtry, time is too precious to be complimented away on the dead, who can make them no return; therefore the ceremony of prayers is laid aſide as ſuperfluous. The coffin is inſtantly put into the grave, which is immediately filled up. The relations bow, and return to their avocations. The organ in this church is inferior only to the organ at Harlem. The partition, which divides the chancel from the nave, is of Corinthian braſs. The ſounding board over the pulpit is juſtly admired for the inimitable carving with which it is ornamented. From thence we proceeded to the Admiralty and Dock-yard, which are ſituated at the extremity of the quay. The Admiralty forms three ſides of a ſquare, in the middle

middle of which is the yard for building of the men of war; the fourth ſide is open to the water. Here is not an appearance to be feared by the Engliſh, though much to be admired for the excellent order in which the arms and ſtores are diſpoſed.

Among the number of hoſpitals in this city, the Gaſt-houſe for the ſick is the moſt worthy a ſtranger's viſiting. It is an elegant ſtone quadrangle, at the end of which are ſome neat little ſhops for toys, lace, &c. The revenue of this hoſpital is computed at eight thouſand pounds ſterling a year, which is a large ſum; but the General hoſpital for men at Madrid, contains one thouſand five hundred iron beds, and its revenue amounts to forty thouſand doubloons; about thirty thouſand pounds ſterling.

There is an hoſpital where all poor travellers without diſtinction are lodged and entertained for three nights, and no longer.

It is computed that twenty thouſand ſouls are maintained in the different hoſpitals, which are either endowed or ſupported out of the public revenue, aſſiſted by the contributions of the charitable; for which purpoſe, men belonging to the hoſpitals go twice a week to every houſe begging for alms.

On Saturday morning we went to the Portugueſe

gueſe Synagogue; which is a large ſpacious building filled with a numerous congregation. The women ſit together in a gallery, with lattices before them. The men ſit below on benches with tawliſes * on, which they throw over their ſhoulders; and I declare, at firſt ſight, I took the whole aſſembly for old-cloaths men, with their bags over their arms.

There are ſome regulations in the police of Amſterdam, which would be well worthy of imitation in London. You never meet a watchman alone; two always walk together, by which means they add ſtrength as well as give courage to each other. Many a houſe is broke open in London, and many a ſober citizen knocked down in the preſence of a watchman, who either from fear or knavery ſuffers the villains to eſcape.

There is another admirable cuſtom to prevent the ſpreading of fire, by giving almoſt an immediate alarm. On the tops of four churches, ſituated at four different quarters of the city, watchmen are fixed during the night, who are obliged to ſound a trumpet every half hour, as a ſignal of their being awake and on their duty. On the breaking

* The *Tawlis* is a kind of veil, generally thrown over the ſhoulders, ſometimes over the face.

out of a fire they ring the alarm bell, which calls their brethren to the ſpot in a moment. Of what ſervice would a plan ſomething ſimilar to this be in our metropolis!

There are few general conveniences which carry not a miſchief along with them. Canals, for inſtance, are great ornaments to the ſtreets, and of infinite uſe to the inhabitants; but the miſchief is, that many an honeſt man loſes his life in Amſterdam, who in London would only loſe his money; for the villains firſt rob him, and then puſh him into the canal, to prevent his telling tales; thus charitably eaſing him of his money, leſt the weight of it ſhould ſink him.

I muſt not omit mentioning the neatneſs of the people; but in this they have no merit; for the neatneſs of their houſes and cleanlineſs of their towns proceed from neceſſity. Such is the moiſture of the air, that were it not for theſe cuſtoms, peſtilential diſeaſes would be the conſequence, which careful as they are, now often happen. This perpetual dampneſs in the atmoſphere ruſts metals and moulds wood, which obliges the inhabitants, not from a principle of neatneſs, but of œconomy, by ſcouring the one and painting the other, to ſeek a prevention or a cure. Hence ariſes the neatneſs, which by people who judge only

only by appearances is called *natural*; but indeed moſt national cuſtoms are the effects of unobſerved cauſes and neceſſities. In this country the mind is perpetually ſtruck with wonder and admiration. If mathematicians are to be credited, on the meaſure of the two elements, they found the ſea, even in a calm, above half a foot higher than the land. The waves are checked by an infinity of ſand-hills, which lie along the coaſt. Add to this natural defence, a dyke of twenty feet high, twenty-five feet broad at bottom, and about ten at top, running parallel to the high-water mark. This is made of clay, ſtrengthened towards the land with planks and ſtone, towards the water with ruſhes, ſea-weed, and flags ſtaked down, which give way to the force of the waves, and reſume their place again, when they retire. Goldſmith has drawn a very elegant picture of this country in his admirable poem of the Traveller.

" While the pent ocean riſing o'er the pile,
" Sees an amphibious world beneath him ſmile;
" The ſlow canal, the yellow bloſſom'd vale,
" The willow-tufted bank, the gliding ſail,
" The crowded mart, the cultivated plain,
" A new creation reſcued from his reign."

It is wonderful, that in a country without a ſtone or pebble, there ſhould be ſtone edifices the

moſt magnificent. Without foreſts, or an oak-tree (two little woods excepted) the Dutch navy is the ſecond in the world. Without arable land, they ſupply half Europe with corn; and with a tract of country, ſcarce larger than an Engliſh county, they can raiſe men and money to make themſelves of importance in the eyes of the firſt power in Chriſtendom.

Facts ſo extraordinary require explanation. Let it then be remembered, that this ſtate was founded on Liberty and Religion; was reared by Induſtry and Œconomy, and has flouriſhed by its ſituation and commerce. The bigoted maxims of Philip II. the introduction of the Inquiſition, and the erecting of fourteen new biſhopricks in the Low Countries, the unrelenting rigour of the Cardinal Granville, and the ſucceeding cruelty of the Duke of Alva, together with the Council of Twelve, called the Council of Blood, and the execution of Count Egmont and Horn, were the cauſes which drove the people to ſhake off the yoke, and gave riſe to the union of Utrecht. Perſevering valour, joined to the political aſſiſtance of other powers, has been the means of their preſerving their independence, while the decline of the Venetian navy has made them the common carriers of Europe, and the wars in Flanders and ſituation of Holland

have

have conſpired to render Amſterdam the ſeat of univerſal commerce.

Till the beginning of the ſixteenth century, Venice by its ſhipping, and Florence by its manufactories, poſſeſſed the whole trade of Europe, Perſia, and the Indies; but the diſcovery of a paſſage to the Eaſt, by the Cape of Good-Hope, and the ſettlements of the Portugueſe in India, proved fatal to the republic of Venice. Liſbon then became the ſtaple of the trade to the Eaſt-Indies, and the Eaſterlings who inhabited the Hans Towns were the great merchants of the North.—They brought commerce firſt to Bruges, and from thence to Antwerp, which the revolt of the Netherlands drew afterwards to Holland. The Dutch likewiſe, by their ſucceſs againſt the Portugueſe in India, and by their treaties with the natives, in proceſs of time drew the whole trade of India from Liſbon.

Their country is moſt admirably ſituated for the trade of the Baltic, which includes Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Ruſſia, Poland, and the North coaſt of Germany, while they ſend merchandize into the interior parts of the Empire and the Auſtrian Netherlands, by the Rhine, Maeſe, and Scheld. It muſt likewiſe be conſidered, that each town values itſelf upon ſome particular branch of trade,

by which it is improved to the utmoſt; as for inſtance, Delft for the Dutch porcelain; Sardam for ſhip-building; Rotterdam for the Scotch and Engliſh trade; Amſterdam for that of the Streights, Spain, and the Eaſt-Indies; and the whole province for the Herring Fiſhery, which ſupplies the ſouthern parts of Europe. Thus the greatneſs of this country has ariſen from a wonderful concurrence of circumſtances; from a long courſe of time; from the confluence of ſtrangers, driven either by perſecution, or invited by the credit of their government; from the cheapneſs of carriage by the convenience of the canals; from the low intereſt of money and dearneſs of land, which conſequently turn ſpecie into trade; from particular traffic carried on at particular places; from their intenſe application to their navy; from the vaſt nurſeries for their ſailors, and from their amazing acquiſitions in the Eaſt-Indies. All theſe circumſtances have conſpired to make this little republic the envy and admiration of the world.

TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND.

SECT.

SECT. LXXX.

A SINGULAR HEAD-DRESS — A SINGULAR CUSTOM — SIR WILLIAM TEMPLE'S OPINION OF HOLLAND.

THE head-dreſs of the women in North Holland is very extraordinary. They have a little hair cut ſhort and thin, which is combed down on the forehead and powdered. The cap ſticks cloſe to their ears, under which are two little pieces of ſilver or gold, which appear at each temple, and a large piece like a broad ribbon is under the cap, on the back part of the head.

A ſingular cuſtom is likewiſe retained in this country of having a door in every houſe, which is never opened but when a corpſe is carried out, which muſt be brought through that door, and no other. I think there is ſomething uncommonly ſolemn in it; and ſuch a door in every houſe would be an admirable memento to the family.

Having made the tour of the whole Province of Holland, and ſuffered nothing curious to eſcape me, my head, at preſent, is a confuſed medley of

dykes and pictures, churches and canals, bridges and ſtadthouſes, but a void in reſpect to the cuſtoms, police, and manners of the people, the only uſeful knowledge to be acquired by travelling.

I have ſeen enough to confirm me in the juſtneſs of Sir William Temple's opinion, who, in ſpeaking of Holland, if my memory miſleads me not, ſays, "That it is a country where the earth is better than the air, and profit more in requeſt than honour; where there is more ſenſe than wit, more good-nature than good-humour, and more wealth than pleaſure;—where a man would chuſe rather to travel than to live; ſhall find more things to obſerve than deſire; and more perſons to eſteem than to love."

TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND.

SECT. LXXXI.

OF ANTWERP AND BRUSSELS.

The approach to the city of Antwerp is noble, by a ſtraight paved road, bordered with oaks. It is the capital of the province whoſe name it bears, belonging

belonging to the Auſtrian Netherlands, and under the dominion of the Emperor. It is ſituated on the eaſtern ſhore of the Scheld, a noble river, twenty feet deep at low water; ſo that ſhips of great burden may unload upon the quays, or enter the town by eight canals, which communicate with the river, ſome of which are large enough to contain an hundred ſhips at the ſame time.

The city is much decayed from its ancient grandeur though it ſtill remains a beautiful place. It is built in the form of a creſent, about ſeven miles in circumference, ſurrounded with a wall and baſtions faced with ſtone. The top of the wall is an hundred feet broad, with a double row of trees, between which is a moſt agreeable walk. The ſtreets are well paved, very ſpacious and uniform. The houſes in general are ſeven or eight ſtories high, but old, and in that miſerable ſtyle of building which diſgraces the towns in Holland. At the diſtance of a quarter of a mile is the citadel, built by the Duke of Alva, to keep the city in ſubjection. It ſtands on the banks of the Scheld, and commands at once the river, the city, and the adjacent country. It is built in a pentagonal form, with five baſtions, which defend each other, ſurrounded with double ditches.

To this citadel is only one entrance, which is over a draw-bridge. It is about a mile in circumference, and well ſupplied with arms, ammuni ion, and all warlike ſtores, with barracks for three thouſand men. This fortreſs has been of ſuch repute for ſtrength and regularity, that it has been a model for ſubſequent engineers; notwithſtanding which the French in 1746 took it in ſeven days.

The trade of Antwerp is now confined to very narrow limits, though ſo late as the middle of the ſixteenth century, there were two hundred thouſand inhabitants, two thouſand five hundred ſhips lying often in the river at a time; and it was far from unfrequent for five hundred veſſels to come in or go out of the harbour in a day.

The trade of Antwerp in the year 1550, if the annals of their city can be relied on, amounted to one hundred and thirty-three millions of gold, without including the bank.

As an inſtance of the amazing opulence of the merchants, there is a ſtory upon record, of John Daens, a merchant, who lent a million of gold to Charles V. to carry on his wars in Hungary. The emperor on his return dined with the merchant, who gave him a moſt ſumptuous entertainment, and at the cloſe of it burnt the contract by which the emperor was bound to pay him a million

lion of gold, in a fire of cinnamon, which was the only fire during the repaſt.

The riſe of their trade was as rapid as the decline, and both proceeded from the ſame cauſes. At the beginning of the ſixteenth century Bruges was the mart of Europe; but the war at that time breaking out in Flanders, the merchants withdrew from Bruges, and were invited to Antwerp, as a place of greater ſafety, whoſe ſituation was happily calculated for commerce. But this did not laſt long, for the civil wars breaking out in the Low Countries, and Antwerp having twice been ſacked, drove trade to ſeek a more peaceful refuge in Amſterdam.

The eſtabliſhed religion is the Catholic; the language Low Dutch; but a baſtard kind of French is ſpoken by moſt of the inhabitants.

We have been ſo fortunate as to ſee a grand proceſſion in honour of St. Rocque. The whole Mer, the moſt magnificent ſtreet in Antwerp, was illuminated with torches, and many hundred people in proceſſion with flambeaux, followed by the Virgin Mary, precious relicks, the Hoſt, and an infinity of ſuch kind of trumpery, amidſt the chorus of voices, ſerpents,* and trumpets.

* Le Serpent is a wind inſtrument which is uſed in all Roman Catholic churches, where the voices are accompanied with muſick.

The whole road from Antwerp to Bruſſels is delightful. Bruſſels is the capital of Brabant and of all the Auſtrian Netherlands. It is the reſidence of the Governor-General of the Low Countries. It is twenty-four miles ſouth of Antwerp, and thirty ſouth-eaſt of Ghent, ſituated on the Senne, an inconſiderable river. The ſcite of this city reſembles Guildford, being built on the brow of a hill. Its figure is oval, about four miles in circumference, ſurrounded with a wall and tolerably fortified. The Low Town has the benefit of canals, which admit boats of conſiderable burden.

The upper town is magnificent, and has lately been much improved by new buildings, and by incloſing a piece of waſte ground, planting it, and laying it out in walks.

The arſenal ſtands on the top of the ſtreet called *Montagne à la Cour*. There is ſome old armour in it of neither curioſity nor uſe; except an iron ſhirt, which no ſword can pierce, and a ſteel ſhield ſo finely engraved that the figures ſeem reflected from the poliſh, not to be etched in the ſteel. The niceſt touch cannot perceive the leaſt ſcratch; notwithſtanding which the figures appear to be ſtrongly marked, when the ſhield is held obliquely.

Juſt

Juſt below the arſenal is the Palace of the governor of the Auſtrian Netherlands. The preſent palace is not more than half finiſhed. There was upon this ſpot an old one, which was bought of the Prince of Orange, at the time the grand palace was burnt, in which was a moſt capital collection of pictures, eſpecially of Rubens's, which with many valuable curioſities periſhed in the flames.

The ſtaircaſe of the preſent palace is very magnificent. The ſteps are of marble, and the baluſtrade of iron, gilt, and adorned with compartments of birds and beaſts, nicely executed in poliſhed ſteel by Trieſte. The ceiling is painted of Freſco.

The apartment of the Princeſs is hung with the Bruſſels tapeſtry, which is brought to great perfection. The floors are all inlaid with mahogany and box. The Princeſs's cabinet is much admired, being covered throughout with the fineſt japan. The late Prince was a great mechanic, and had a cabinet of curioſities trifling enough, among which were two boxes, containing all the common trades in miniature.

TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND.

SECT.

SECT. LXXXII.

OF BARCELONA IN SPAIN.

THIS city is a ſweet ſpot. The air equals in purity, and much excels in mildneſs, the boaſted climate of Montpelier. Except in the dog-days, you may have green peaſe all the year round. The ſituation is beautiful, the appearance both from land and ſea remarkably pictureſque. A great extent of fruitful plains, bounded by an amphitheatre of hills, backs it on the weſt ſide; the mountain of Montjuich defends it on the ſouth from the unwholſome winds that blow over the marſhes at the mouth of the Llobregat; to the northward, the coaſt projecting into the ſea forms a noble bay; it has the Mediterranean to cloſe the proſpect to the eaſt. The environs are in a ſtate of high cultivation, ſtudded with villages, country houſes, and gardens.

The form of Barcelona is almoſt circular, the Roman town being on the higheſt ground in the center of the new one. The ancient walls are ſtill viſible in ſeveral places; but the ſea has retired many hundreds of yards from the port gates.

One

One of the principal Gothic churches, and a whole quarter of the city, ſtand upon the ſands that were once the bottom of the harbour. The immenſe loads of ſand hurried down into the ſea by the rivers, and thrown back by wind and current into this haven, will, in all probability, choak it quite up, unleſs greater diligence be uſed in preventing the gathering of the ſhoals. A ſoutherly wind brings in the ſand, and already a deep-loaden veſſel finds it dangerous to paſs over the bar. Some years ago a company of Dutch and Engliſh adventurers offered to bring the river into the port by means of a canal, if government would allow them a free importation for ten years. This project might have cleared away the ſand-banks, but might alſo have given a fatal check to the infant manufactures of the country; for which reaſon the propoſal was rejected. The port is handſome; the mole is all of hewn ſtone, a maſterpiece of ſolidity and convenience. Above is a platform for carriages; below, vaſt magazines, with a broad key reaching from the city gates to the light-houſe. This was done by the orders of the late Marquis de La Mina, captain-general of the principality, where his memory is held in greater veneration than at the court of Madrid. He governed Catalonia many years, more like an independent

independent ſovereign, than like a ſubject inveſted with a delegated authority. Great are the obligations Barcelona has to him. He cleanſed and beautified its ſtreets, built uſeful edifices, and forwarded its trade and manufactures, without much extraordinary expence to the province; for he had more reſources, and made money go farther than moſt other governors can do, or indeed wiſh to do.

The citadel has ſix ſtrong baſtions, calculated to overawe the inhabitants, at leaſt as much as to defend them from a foreign enemy. The lowneſs of its ſituation renders it damp, unwholeſome, and ſwarming with moſquitos. The major of this fortreſs owes his promotion to a ſingular circumſtance. When the preſent king arrived at Madrid in 1759, a magnificent bull-feaſt was given in honour of that event. As it is neceſſary, upon ſuch occaſions, that thoſe who fight on horſeback ſhould be gentlemen born, the managers of the exhibition were greatly at a loſs; till this man, who was a poor, ſtarving officer, preſented himſelf, though utterly ignorant both of bull-fighting and horſemanſhip. By dint of reſolution, and the particular favour of fortune, he kept his ſeat, and performed his part ſo much to the public ſatisfaction,

tion, that he was rewarded with a penſion and a majority.

The ſtreets of Barcelona are narrow, but well paved. A covered drain in the middle of each ſtreet carries off the filth and rain water. At night they are tolerably well lighted up, but long before day-break every lamp is out. The houſes are lofty and plain. To each kind of trade a particular diſtrict is allotted.

Catalonia, of which Barcelona is the capital, is almoſt throughout extremely mountainous. The nature of the country appears to have great influence on that of the inhabitants, who are a hardy, active, and induſtrious race, of a middle ſize, brown complexion, and ſtrong features; their limbs well knit together, and by education and practice inured to the greateſt fatigues. There are few lame or diſtorted perſons, or beggars, to be met with among them. Their *Mocos* or mule-boys are ſtout walkers. Some of them have been known to go from Barcelona to Madrid, and back again, in nine days, which by the high road is ſix hundred miles.

The loſs of all their immunities, the ignominious prohibition of every weapon, even a knife, and an enormous load of taxes; have not been able to ſtifle their independent ſpirit, which breaks out upon

upon the leaſt ſtretch of arbitrary power. Within theſe few years, many of their ancient privileges have been gradually reſtored; and this is at preſent one of the moſt flouriſhing provinces of Spain. Their taxation is ſtill very high. All trade is aſſeſſed according to the buſineſs you are ſuppoſed to tranſact in the courſe of the year, without regard to your loſs or gain.

Amongſt other reſtrictions, the uſe of ſlouched hats, white ſhoes, and large brown cloaks is forbidden. Till of late, they durſt not carry any kind of knife; but in each public houſe there was one chained to the table for the uſe of all comers. The good order maintained by the police, and the vigilance of the thief-takers, ſupply the place of defenſive weapons, robberies and murders being ſeldom heard of. You may walk the ſtreets of Barcelona at all hours unarmed, without the leaſt apprehenſion, provided you have light; without it you are liable to be carried to priſon by the patrol.

The Catalonians cannot brook the thoughts of being menial ſervants in their own country, but will rather trudge it all over with a pedlar's pack on their ſhoulders, or run about upon errands, than be the head domeſtic in a Catalonian family. Far from home they make excellent ſervants, and moſt

moſt of the principal houſes of Madrid have Catalonians at the head of their affairs.

They are the general muleteers and caleſſieros of Spain. You meet with them in every part of the kingdom. Their honeſty, ſteadineſs, and ſobriety, entitle them to the confidence of travellers, and their thirſt after lucre makes them bear with any hardſhips. With good words you will always find them docile, but they cannot bear hard uſage or opprobrious language.

Thoſe that remain at home for the labours of the field, are exceedingly induſtrious. Their corn-harveſt is in May or early in June; but, as thoſe crops are liable to frequent burſtings and mildews, they have turned their attention more to the vine, which they plant even upon the ſummits of their moſt rugged mountains. In many places they carry up earth to fix the young ſet in; and in others, have been known to let one another down from the brow of the rock by ropes, rather than ſuffer a good patch of ſoil to remain uſeleſs. Their vintages are commonly very plentiful. This autumn, there was ſuch a ſuper-abundance of grapes in the valley of Talarn, in the neighbourhood of Pallas, that whole vineyards were left untouched for want of veſſels to make or hold the wine in. Notice was paſted upon the

the church-doors, that any one was at liberty to take away what quantity he pleaſed, on paying a ſmall acknowledgement to the proprietors. The beſt red wine of Catalonia is made at Mataro, north of Barcelona, and the beſt white at Sitges, between that city and Tarragona.

The ſcarcity of corn is ſometimes very great, the principality not producing above five months proviſion. Without the importation from America, Sicily, and the North of Europe, it would run the riſk of being famiſhed. From four hundred thouſand to ſix hundred thouſand quarters of wheat are annually imported. Canada alone ſent this year about eighty thouſand quarters. There are public ovens, where the bakers are bound by contract to bake every day into bread one thouſand buſhels of flour, or more, at a ſtated price, and in caſe the other bakers ſhould refuſe to work, they are under the obligation of furniſhing the city with bread.

The number of the inhabitants of Barcelona is made to amount to one hundred and fifty thouſand ſouls, and thoſe of Barceloneta to ten thouſand. But although trade and population have increaſed ſurpriſingly in the courſe of a few years, I doubt there is ſome exaggeration in this reckoning.

The great export-commerce conſiſts in wine, brandies,

brandies, ſalt, and oil, which are moſtly taken in by foreign ſhips at the little ports and roads along the coaſt, and not brought to be ſhipped off at the capital.

There are mines of lead, iron, and coal, in the mountains, but they are ill wrought, and turn to poor account. The manufactures are of more importance. Barcelona ſupplies Spain with moſt of the cloathing and arms for the troops. This branch of buſineſs is carried on with much intelligence. They can equip a battalion of ſix hundred men completely in a week.

A great trade is driven in ſilk handkerchiefs and ſtockings; in woollens of various qualities; in ſilk and thread lace; in fire arms. The gun-barrels of Barcelona are much eſteemed, and coſt from four to twenty guineas; but about five is the real value; all above is paid for fancy and ornament. They are made out of the old ſhoes of mules. Several manufactures of printed linens are eſtabliſhed here, but have not yet arrived at any great elegance of deſign or livelineſs of colour.

The imports are, bedſides corn, about eighty thouſand hundred weight of Newfoundland cod, which pays three peſettas per hundred-weight duty, and ſells upon an average at a guinea; beans from Holland for the poor people, and an inferior ſort from

from Africa for the mules; Engliſh bale goods, and many foreign articles of neceſſity or luxury. Houſe-rent and living are dear; proviſions but indifferent. The fiſh is flabby and inſipid; the meat poor; but the vegetables are excellent, eſpecially brocoli and cauliflower. I believe their meat and fiſh are much better in ſummer than at this ſeaſon of the year.

The devotion of the Catalonians ſeems to be pretty much upon a par with that of their neighbours in the ſouthern provinces of France, and, I am told, much leſs ardent than we ſhall find it as we advance into Spain; but they ſtill abound with ſtrange practices of religion and local worſhip. One very odd idea of theirs is, that on the firſt of November, the eve of All-Souls, they run about from houſe to houſe to eat cheſnuts, believing that for every cheſnut they ſwallow, with proper faith and unction, they ſhall deliver a ſoul out of purgatory.

The influx of foreigners, increaſe of commerce, and protection granted to the liberal arts, begin to open the underſtanding of this people, who have made great ſtrides of late towards ſenſe and philoſophy.

There are now but one or two churches at moſt in each city, that are allowed the privilege of protecting

tecting offenders, and murderers are excluded from the benefit of the ſanctuary. The proceedings of the Inquiſition are grown very mild. If any perſon leads a ſcandalous life, or allows his tongue unwarrantable liberties, he is ſummoned by the holy office and privately admoniſhed; in caſe of non-amendment, he is committed to priſon. Once a year you muſt anſwer to that tribunal for the orthodoxy of your family, even of every ſervant, or they muſt quit the country. But the foreign Proteſtant houſes are paſſed over unnoticed. Avoid talking on religion, and with a little diſcretion you may live here in what manner you pleaſe.

Every Jew that lands in Spain muſt declare himſelf to be ſuch at the Inquiſition; which immediately appoints a familiar to attend him all the time he ſtays aſhore, to whom he pays a piſtole a day. Were he to neglect giving this information, he would be liable to be ſeized. Yet I have been aſſured by perſons of undoubted credit, that a Jew may travel incognito from Perpignan to Liſbon, and ſleep every night at the houſe of a Jew, being recommended from one to another; and that you may take it for granted, that wherever you ſee a houſe remarkably decked out with images, relics, and lamps, and the owner noted for being

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the moſt enthuſiaſtic devotee of the pariſh, there it is ten to one but the family are Iſraelites at heart.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. LXXXIII.

OF THE FLOCKS ON THE PYRENEAN MOUNTAINS.

ON the 10th of July, 1787, we left Bagnere de Luchon, and croſſed the mountains to Vielle, the firſt town on the Spaniſh ſide. The Pyrenees are ſo great an object of examination, in whatever light they are conſidered, but eſpecially in that of agriculture, that it would be adding a great deal too much to the length of this paper to ſpeak of them here; I ſhall on another occaſion be particular in deſcribing the huſbandry practiſed in them, and at preſent ſtop no longer than to mention the paſturage of Catalonian ſheep in them. By a little detour out of our direct road, and by paſſing Hoſpital, which is the name of a ſolitary wretched inn, we gained the heights, but free from ſnow, which

which the Spaniards hire of the French for the paſturage of their flocks. I muſt obſerve, that a conſiderable part of the mountains belong in property to the communities of the reſpective pariſhes, and are diſpoſed of by what we ſhould call the Veſtry. They hire a very conſiderable range of many miles. The French mountains, on which they paſture, are four hours diſtant from Bagnere de Luchon, and belong to that town. Thoſe hours are more than twenty Engliſh miles, and are the moſt diſtant part of the pariſh. To arrive at them we followed the river Pique, which upon the maps is ſometimes called the Neſte. The whole way it runs in a torrent, and falls in caſcades of many ſtories, formed either by large pieces of rock, or by trees carried down and ſtopped by ſtones. The current, in proceſs of ages, has worn itſelf deep glens to paſs through, at the bottom of which the tumbling of the water is heard, but can be ſeen only at breaks in the wood, which hang over and darken the ſcene. The road, as it is called, paſſes generally by the river, but hangs, if I may uſe the expreſſion, like a ſhelf on the mountain ſide, and is truly dreadful to the inhabitants of plains, from being broken by gullies, and ſloping on the edges of precipices. It is, however, paſſable by mules, and by the horſes of the mountains. The vale grows

ſo narrow at laſt, that it is not above an hundred yards wide in ſome places. The general ſcene at laſt has little wood.

The mountains on the ſouth ſide finiſh in a pyramidical rock of micaceous ſchiſtus, which is conſtantly tumbling into the plain, from the attacks of the froſt, and the melting of the ſnows, the ſlope to the river being ſpread with fragments. We meet here with pieces of lead ore and manganeſe.

On the northern ridge, bearing to the Weſt, are the paſtures of the Spaniſh flocks. This ridge is not, however, the whole. There are two other mountains, quite in a different ſituation, and the ſheep travel from one to another, as the paſturage is ſhort or plentiful. I examined the ſoil of theſe mountain paſtures, and found it in general ſtony; what in the Weſt of England would be called a *ſtone braſh*, with ſome mixture of loam, and in a few places a little peaty. The plants are many of them untouched by the ſheep. Many ferns, narciſſus, violets, and the narrow-leaved plantain, were eaten, as may be ſuppoſed, cloſe. I looked for trefoils, but found ſcarcely any. It was very apparent, that ſoil and peculiarity of herbage had little to do in rendering theſe heights proper for ſheep. In the northern parts of Europe, the tops of

of mountains half the height of theſe, (for we were above ſnow in July) are bogs. All are ſo which I have ſeen in our iſlands; or at leaſt, the proportion of dry land is very trifling to that which is extremely wet. Here they are in general very dry. Now a great range of dry land, let the plants be what they may, will in every country ſuit ſheep. The flock is brought every night to one ſpot, which is ſituated at the end of the valley on the river I have mentioned, and near the port or paſſage of Picada. It is a level ſpot ſheltered from all winds. The ſoil is eight or nine inches deep of old dung, not at all incloſed; and from the freedom from wood all around it, ſeems to be choſen partly for ſafety againſt wolves and bears. Near it is a very large ſtone, or rather rock, fallen from the mountain. This the ſhepherds have taken for a ſhelter, and have built a hut againſt it. Their beds are ſheep-ſkins, and their doors ſo ſmall that they crawl in. I ſaw no place for fire, but they have it, ſince they dreſs here the fleſh of their ſheep, and in the night ſometimes keep off the bears, by whirling fire-brands. Four of them, belonging to the flock mentioned above, lie here. We viewed their flock very carefully, and by means of our guide and interpreter, made ſome enquiries of the ſhepherds, which they anſwered readily, and very

civilly. A Spaniard at Venaſque, a city in the Pyrenees, gives ſix hundred livres French (the livre is ten pence halfpenny Engliſh) a year, for the paſturage of this flock of two thouſand ſheep. In the winter he ſends them into the lower parts of Catalonia, a journey of twelve or thirteen days, and when the ſnow is melted enough in the ſpring, they are conducted back again. They are the whole year kept in motion, and moving from ſpot to ſpot, which is owing to the great range they every where have of paſture. They are always in the open air, never houſed or under cover, and never taſte of any food, but what they can find on the hills.

Four ſhepherds, and from four to ſix large Spaniſh dogs have the care of this flock. The latter are in France called of the Pyrenees breed. They are black and white, of the ſize of a large wolf, a large head and neck, armed with collars ſtuck with iron ſpikes. No wolf can ſtand againſt them; but bears are more potent adverſaries. If a bear can reach a tree he is ſafe. He riſes on his hind legs, with his back to the tree, and ſets the dogs at defiance. In the night the ſhepherds rely entirely on their dogs, but on hearing them bark are ready with fire-arms, as the dogs rarely bark if a bear is not at hand. I was ſurpriſed to find

find that they are fed only with bread and milk. The head ſhepherd is paid one hundred and twenty livres a year wages and bread; the others eighty livres and bread. But they are allowed to keep goats of which they have many, which they milk every day. Their food is milk and bread, except the fleſh of ſuch ſheep or lambs as accidents give them. The head ſhepherd keeps on the mountain top, or an elevated ſpot, from whence he can the better ſee around, while the flock traverſes the declivities. In doing this the ſheep are expoſed to great danger in places that are ſtony; for ſome of them, eſpecially the goats, by walking among the rocks, move the ſtones, which rolling down the hills, acquire an accelerated force enough to knock a man down; and ſheep are often killed by them. Yet we ſaw how alert they were to avoid ſuch ſtones, and cautiouſly on their guard againſt them. We examined the ſheep attentively. They are in general polled, but ſome have horns; which in the rams turn backward behind the ears, and project half a circle forwards; the ewes horns turn alſo behind the ears, but do not project: the legs white or reddiſh; ſpeckled faces, ſome white, ſome reddiſh: they would weigh fat, I reckon, on an average, from fifteen to eighteen pounds a quarter. There are a few black ſheep among them; and ſome with a very little tuft of wool on

their foreheads. On the whole they reſemble thoſe on the South Downs. Their legs are as ſhort as thoſe of that breed; a point which merits obſervation, as they travel ſo much and ſo well.

Having ſatisfied ourſelves with our examination of this flock, we returned to the direct road for Vielle, which alſo leads to one of the moſt woody regions of the Pyrenees, and at the ſame time the moſt romantic. The road is ſo bad that no horſe but thoſe of the mountains could paſs it; but our mules trod ſecurely amidſt rolling ſtones on the edges of precipices of a tremendous depth; but ſure-footed as they are, they are not free from ſtumbling; and when they happen to trip a little in thoſe ſituations, they electrify their riders in a manner not altogether ſo pleaſant as Mr. Walker. Theſe mountains are chiefly rocks of micaceous ſchiſtus, but there are large detached fragments of granite.

We paſs the frontier line which divides France and Spain; and riſing on the mountains, we ſee the Spaniſh valley of Aran, with the river Garonne winding through it in a beautiful manner. The town of Boſoſte is at the foot of the mountains, where is the Spaniſh cuſtom-houſe. Mules imported into Spain pay here ſixteen livres. A

four

four year old horſe the ſame. A ſix year old one thirteen ditto. An ox five; and a ſheep one and a half ſol. This vale of Aran is richly cultivated, and without any fallows. Nothing ſcarcely can be finer than the view of the valley from heights ſo great as to render the moſt common objects intereſting. The road leads under trees, whoſe arching boughs preſent at every ten paces new landſcapes. The woods here are thick, and preſent fine maſſes of ſhade; the rocks large, and every outline bold: and the verdant vale that is ſpread far below at your feet, has all the features of beauty, in contraſt with the ſublimity of the ſurrounding mountains.

We deſcend into this vale, and bait at our firſt Spaniſh inn. No hay, no corn, no meat, no windows; but cheap eggs and bread, and ſome trout for fifteen ſous. (Seven pence halfpenny Engliſh.)

We follow from hence the Garonne, which is already a fine river, but very rapid. On it they float many trees to their ſaw-mills, to cut into boards. We ſaw many at work. The vale is narrow, but the hills to the left are cultivated high up. There are no fallows. They have little wheat, but a great deal of rye; and much better barley than in the French mountains. In-

ſtead of fallows they have maize and millet, and many more potatoes than in the French mountains. They have alſo French beans, and a little hemp. We ſaw two fields of vetches and ſquare peaſe. The ſmall potatoes they give to their pigs, which do very well with them; and the leaves to their cows, but aſſert that they refuſe the roots. Buck-wheat alſo takes the place of fallow. Many crops of it were good, and ſome as fine as poſſible.

The whole valley of Aran is well cultivated and highly peopled. It is eight hours long, or about forty miles Engliſh, and has in it thirty-two villages. Theſe villages, or rather little towns, have a very pretty appearance, the walls being well built, and the houſes all well ſlated. But on entering theſe towns the ſpectacle changes at once. We found them the abodes of poverty and wretchedneſs; not one window of glaſs to be ſeen in a whole town; ſcarcely any chimnies, both ground floor and the chimnies vomiting the ſmoke out of the windows.

We arrive at Vielle, the capital of this valley, and the paſſage from this part of France to Barcelona; a circumſtance which has given ſome trifling reſources to it. We were informed here, that we could not go into Spain without a paſſport;

paſſport; we therefore waited on the governor, who preſides over the whole valley and its thirty-two towns. His houſe was the only one we had ſeen with glaſs windows. He is a lieutenant-colonel, and knight of Calatrava. In his ante-room was the king's picture, with a canopy of ſtate over it. The governor received us with the Spaniſh formality, and aſſured us that a few months ago, there was an order to ſend every foreigner, found without a paſſport, to the troops. Such orders ſhew pretty well the number of foreigners here. On each ſide of his bed was a brace of piſtols, and a crucifix in the middle. We did not aſk in which he put the moſt confidence.

We made enquiries concerning the agriculture. They have no farmers. Every one cultivates his own land, which is never fallowed. They have no ſpecies of manufactures, but ſpinning and weaving for the private uſe of every family.

The mountains belong, as in the French Pyrenees, to the pariſhes. Each inhabitant has a right to cut what wood he pleaſes for fuel and repairs, in the woods aſſigned for that purpoſe. Others are let by leaſe at public auction for the benefit of the pariſh, the trees to be cut being marked; and in general, the police of their woods is better than on the French ſide. When woods are cut,

they are preſerved. Their mountain paſtures not uſed by themſelves, they let to the owners of large flocks, who bring them from the lower part of Catalonia. Theſe flocks riſe to four thouſand ſheep, the rent, in general, being from five to ſeven ſous a head for the ſummer food. Every inhabitant poſſeſſes cattle, which he keeps in the common mountains in what quantity he pleaſes; but others, who do not belong to the pariſh, pay five to ſeven ſous a head for the ſheep, and ten ſous for a cow; which diſproportion they explain, by ſaying, that ſheep muſt have a much greater range. In ſummer they make cheeſe, which we taſted and found good. In winter their cattle are kept at home, and their cows fed on buck-wheat ſtraw, which they aſſert to be good food; alſo that of maize and millet, and a little hay; moſt of it being aſſigned to their mules. They have good ſheep, but all are ſent to Saragoſa or Barcelona. They have ſcarce any oxen; what few they kill, they ſalt for winter.

Taxes are light; the whole which the town is aſſeſſed at being only two thouſand ſeven hundred livres, which they pay by the rent of their woods and paſtures let. When the principles of a government tend to deſpotiſm, and the very pictures of kings are treated with reverence, the conſe-

quence

quence is light taxation. The only effectual means of inſuring a great revenue, is to extend the principles and the exerciſe of liberty. The change is, and ever will be, as much for the benefit of the prince as of the ſubject.

At Bagnere de Luchon we were told that the inn at Vielle was good. We found the lower floor a ſtable, from which we mounted to a black kitchen, and through that to a baking-room with a large batch of loaves making for an oven which was heating to receive them. In this room were two beds for all the travellers that might come. If too numerous, ſtraw is ſpread on the floor, and you may reſt as you can. There was no glaſs in the windows. One of the beds was occupied, ſo that my companion ſlept on a table. The houſe, however, afforded eggs for an omelet, good bread, thick wine, brandy, and fowls, killed after we arrived. The people were very dirty, but civil.

On the eleventh of July we reached Scullo. The inn was ſo bad, that our guide would not permit us to enter it, but conducted us to the houſe of the Cúre. A ſcene followed ſo new to Engliſh eyes, that we could not refrain from laughing very heartily. Not a pane of glaſs in the whole town, but our reverend hoſt had a chimney in his kitchen. He ran to the river to

catch trout. A man brought us ſome chickens, which were put to death on the ſpot. For light they kindled ſplinters of pitch-pine, and two merry wenches, with three or four men collected to ſtare at us, as well as we at them, were preſently buſy in ſatisfying our hunger. They gave us red wine ſo dreadfully putrid from the borachio, that I could not touch it; and brandy, but poiſoned with aniſeed. Then a bottle of excellent rich white wine was produced, reſembling good mountain, and all was well. But when we came to examine our beds there was only one. My friend would again do the honours, and inſiſted on my taking it. He made his on a table; and what with bugs, fleas, rats, and mice, ſlept not. I was not attacked; and though the bed and a pavement might be ranked in the ſame claſs of ſoftneſs, fatigue converted it to down. This town and its inhabitants are, to the eye, equally wretched. The ſmoke-holes inſtead of chimneys; the total want of glaſs windows, the chearfulneſs of which, to the eye, is known only by the want; the dreſs of the women, all in black, with cloth of the ſame colour about their heads, and hanging half down their backs; no ſhoes; no ſtockings; the effect upon the whole diſmal; ſavage as the rocks and mountains.

YOUNG.

SECT. LXXXIV.

OF MADRID. A. D. 1778.

IN the afternoons, we ſpend our time in viſiting the moſt remarkable edifices of this city. If you except the royal palaces, there are few buildings worthy of attention, nor do I believe there is in Europe a capital that has ſo little to ſhew as Madrid. Having never been the ſee of a biſhop, it has of courſe no cathedral, nor indeed any church, that diſtinguiſhes itſelf much from the common herd of pariſhes and convents. Allowing ſome few exceptions, I think I may ſafely pronounce the outward architecture of them all to be barbarous, and their manner of ornamenting the inſide as bad as that of the worſt ages. Moſt of them were erected or retouched during the term of years that elapſed between the middle of the ſeventeenth century and the year 1759, a period in the hiſtory of Spain, when all arts and ſciences were fallen to the loweſt ebb; the effects of the degeneracy of manners, the want of public ſpirit, and the diſorder and weakneſs of a decaying monarchy. Theſe vices in the political ſyſtem under the three laſt

princes

princes of the Auſtrian line, could not be removed immediately on the acceſſion of another family. The wars that ſhook the very foundations of their throne for the firſt ten years of this century, kept all polite arts groveling in the duſt; and when they ventured to raiſe their heads again, and court the favour of the ſovereign, there ſeems to have been a total want of able profeſſors to ſecond their efforts, and aſſiſt them in returning to the paths of good ſenſe and true taſte.

No mad architect ever dreamed of a diſtortion of members ſo capricious, of a twiſt of pillars, cornices, or pediments, ſo wild and fantaſtic, but what a real ſample of it may be produced in ſome or other of the churches of Madrid. They are all ſmall, and poor in marbles as well as pictures. Their altars are piles of wooden ornaments, heaped up to the ceiling, and ſtuck full of wax lights, which more than once have ſet fire to the whole church.

The convents, which may be ſaid to poſſeſs a good collection of pictures, are thoſe of Saint Paſqual, and of the bare-footed Carmelite nuns. The former has a fine Titian, a capital Guerchino, and many other pieces by eſteemed Italian maſters. In the ſacriſty of the latter, is a numerous collection of paintings by various hands, many of which

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are of ſuperior merit. The tombs of Ferdinand the Sixth, and of his queen Barbara, in the church of the Viſitation, are almoſt the only ſepulchral monuments of any conſequence.

The royal palace is all of white ſtone. Each of the fronts being four hundred and ſeventy feet in length, by one hundred high, this pile towers over all the country, where nothing intercepts the view for many miles. The entrances and ground-floor appear more like thoſe of ſome mighty fortreſs, than of the peaceable habitation of a powerful monarch, an hundred leagues removed from his frontiers. The range of large glazed arches round the inner court, reſembles the inſide of a manufactory. This is the more unpardonable, as they had at no great diſtance, in the Alcazar of Toledo, as elegant a colonnade as the niceſt critic could deſire. The beautiful circular court of Granada might have ſuggeſted noble ideas to the architect; but perhaps at that time the very exiſtence of ſuch a thing was a ſecret at Madrid.

The ſtair-caſe was meant to be double, but it was afterwards judged more convenient to ſhut up one flight, as the remaining half anſwered every purpoſe. At the foot of the ſtairs I ſhall leave all my ſpleen, and prepare myſelf with unfeigned ſatisfaction to deſcribe to you the beauty and grandeur of the upper apartments.

I know

I know no palace in Europe fitted up with ſo much true royal magnificence. The richeſt marbles are employed with great taſte in forming the cornices and ſocles of the rooms, and the frames of the doors and windows. What enhances the value of theſe marbles, is the circumſtance of their being all produced in the quarries of Spain, from whence it is the opinion of a learned writer, that ancient Rome was ſupplied with many of the precious materials that enriched her porticoes and temples. At leaſt, there is no preſumption in aſſerting, that the bowels of the earth in Spain contain moſt of thoſe ſpecies of marbles, that are to be ſeen in the ruins of the miſtreſs of the world, whatever might be the countries from which they were drawn. Porphyry is found near Cordova; the fineſt jaſper near Aracena; the mountains of Granada furniſh a beautiful green, thoſe of Tortoſa a variety of brown marbles. Leon and Malaga ſend alabaſter; Toledo, Talavera, Badajoz, and Murviedro, abound in marbles of different colours; and moſt parts of the kingdom afford ſome ſpecimen or other of jaſper, beſides the amethyſt and its radix, for which Spain is celebrated above moſt other countries.

The great audience chamber is one of the richeſt I know. The ceiling, painted by Tiepolo, repreſents

ſents the triumph of Spain. Round the cornice the artiſt has placed allegorical figures of its different provinces, diſtinguiſhed by their productions, and attended by ſeveral of their inhabitants in the provincial habit. Theſe form a moſt uncommon picture, and a curious ſet of *Coſtumi*. The walls are incruſtated with beautiful marble, and all around hung with large plates of looking-glaſs in rich frames. The manufactory of glaſs is at Saint Ildefonſo, where they caſt them of a very great ſize; but I am told they are apt to turn out much rougher, and fuller of flaws, than thoſe made in France.

A collection of pictures, by the greateſt maſters of the art, adorns the walls of the inner apartments; but even this vaſt fabric does not afford room for all the riches his Catholic Majeſty poſſeſſes in this branch. The detail and catalogue of a number of paintings, is ſure to fatigue a reader who has never ſeen, nor can ever rationally expect to ſee them; therefore it is incumbent on me to ſelect only a few of my favourites from my memorandums.

Of the works of Titian, the moſt remarkable are, a bacchanalian woman lying on her back aſleep. The liquor has diffuſed a glow over her beautiful face, and her body is divinely handſome.

One

One of the greateſt painters of the age has often declared, he never paſſed before this picture without being ſtruck with admiration; ſome boys playing, full of grace, and a charming variety of attitudes.

Rubens — Chriſt and St. John Baptiſt, lovely children. A prieſt on horſeback, carrying the viaticum to a ſick perſon, accompanied by Rodolph earl of Hapſburgh, one of the maſter-pieces of his pencil.

Murillo—A vintager, wine-ſeller, holy family, two boys; all in their different characters, excellently painted with a rich mellow colour.

Vandyke—The ſeizing of Chriſt in the garden, a ſtrong compoſition; ſeveral portraits abſolutely alive.

Spagnolet—Iſaac feeling Jacob's hands; very capital.

In the ſhallow vale between the Retiro and the town, which has not the leaſt ſuburb of any kind belonging to it, the preſent King has finiſhed the Prado, which in a few years, provided they manage the trees properly, will be one of the fineſt walks in the world. Its length and breadth are great, the avenues drawn in an intelligent, noble ſtyle, the foot-paths wide and neat, the iron railing and ſtone ſeats done in a grand expenſive manner.

All

All the coaches of Madrid drive in the ring here; and though the abſence of the court leſſens the appearance more than two thirds, yet laſt night I counted two hundred carriages following each other. On the declivity of the Retiro, they mean to plant a botanical garden.

The view from this walk is, as it ſhould be, confined; for the winds are ſo ſharp and boiſterous, and the landſcape ſo horrid all round the city, that no place of public reſort could be comfortable, unleſs it were, like this, ſhut in from all diſtant views, and ſheltered by the hills from the blaſts that ſweep over the highlands of Caſtile.

To the weſt, it has the town, the three principal ſtreets of which terminate in the Prado. Theſe are three noble openings, excellently paved, and clean even to a nicety; indeed ſo are moſt of the ſtreets of Madrid ſince the edict for paving and cleaning them. The foreigners that reſided here before that time, ſhudder at the very recollection of its former filth.

Some of the natives regret the old ſtinks and naſtineſs; as they pretend that the air of Madrid is ſo ſubtle, as to require a proper mixture of groſſer effluvia, to prevent its pernicious effects upon the conſtitution. The extremes of cold and heat are aſtoniſhing in this place, and the winds ſo ſearching,

ing, that all the Spaniards wear leathern under-waiſtcoats, to preſerve their cheſts; for they pervade every other kind of clothing. In ſummer the duſt is intolerable.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. LXXXV.

OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF SPAIN.

WE have juſt finiſhed our round of preſentations, which, in ſo numerous a royal family, is a work of more days than one. As I know you expect a minute account of each of thoſe that compoſe it, I am ſorry I am incapable of ſatisfying your curioſity, in as ample a manner as I could wiſh. You ſhall have a deſcription of their perſons, and as much of their characters as I have learned from well-informed people, in whoſe judgment I can confide. I beg you will conſider how hard it is to diſcern the true character of the great, as your intelligence can only flow to you through the ſuſpicious channel of many jarring paſſions and intereſts. It is impoſſible for a ſtranger to ſeize a good

good likeneſs in ſo ſhort a time, and to tranſmit to others a faithful repreſentation of a prince that does not admit him to a familiar intercourſe.

I don't know but ſovereigns are the moſt difficult characters to define in a whole nation; for all princes appear pretty nearly alike. Their mode of life is uniform. By ſeeing none but inferiors about them, they acquire a great indifference in their manner, and ſeldom betray in their countenance any of thoſe ſtrong emotions that mark the various feelings of men obliged to buſtle through the world. Their paſſions lack the reliſh which ariſes from delays and difficulties. What the French call *Ennui*, weariſomeneſs, is, methinks, the grand malady of princes, and therefore amuſement is their main purſuit in life.

In the princes of the houſe of Bourbon, the paſſion of fowling predominates; yet in the Spaniſh royal family, there are ſome who toil at the gun with more reluctance than the farmer's boy does at the plough; have a taſte for arts and ſciences, and wiſh for nothing more than to be freed from the obligation of following the diverſion.

The ceremony of preſentation is performed as the king riſes from table. Charles the Third is a much better looking man than moſt of his pictures make him. He has a good-natured laugh-

ing

ing eye. The lower part of his face, by being expoſed to all weathers, is become of a deep copper colour. What his hat covers is fair, as he naturally has a good ſkin. In ſtature he is rather ſhort, thickly built about the legs and thighs, and narrow in the ſhoulders. His dreſs ſeldom varies from a large hat, a plain grey Segovia frock, a buff waiſtcoat, a ſmall dagger, black breeches, and worſted ſtockings. His pockets are always ſtuffed with knives, gloves, and ſhooting tackle. On Gala days, a fine ſuit is hung upon his ſhoulders, but as he has an eye to his afternoon ſport, and is a great œconomiſt of his time, the black breeches are worn to all coats. I believe there are but three days in the whole year that he ſpends without going out a-ſhooting, and thoſe are noted with the blackeſt mark in the calendar. Were they to occur often, his health would be in danger, and an accident that was to confine him to the houſe, would infallibly bring on a fit of illneſs. No ſtorm, heat, cold, or wet, can keep him at home; and when he hears of a wolf being ſeen, diſtance is counted for nothing. He would drive over half the kingdom rather than miſs an opportunity of firing upon that favourite game.

Beſides a moſt numerous retinue of perſons belonging to the hunting eſtabliſhment, ſeveral times a year,

a year, all the idle fellows in and about Madrid are hired to beat the country, and drive the wild boars, deer, and hares, into a ring, where they paſs before the royal family. A very large annual ſum is diſtributed among the proprietors of land about the capital, and near the country palaces, by way of indemnification for the damage done to the corn. I was aſſured that it coſts ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling for the environs of Madrid, and thirty thouſand for thoſe of Saint Ildefonſo. In order to be entitled to this reimburſement, the farmers ſcatter juſt as much ſeed-corn over their grounds, as will grow up into ſomething like a crop; but they do not always give themſelves the trouble of getting in the ſcanty harveſt, being ſufficiently paid for their labour by the royal bounty.

Being naturally of an even phlegmatic temper, the king is ſure to ſee events on their favourable ſide only; and whenever he has determined in his own mind, that a meaſure is proper to be purſued, he is an utter enemy to alteration. As far as I can judge, by comparing the different accounts I have had, he is a man of the ſtricteſt probity, incapable of adopting any ſcheme, unleſs he is perfectly ſatisfied in his conſcience that it is juſt and honourable;—of ſuch immovable features, that the moſt fortunate or the moſt diſaſtrous occurrences,

currences, are alike unable to create the ſmalleſt variation in them; — rigid in his morals, and ſtrenuouſly attached to his religion; but he does not ſuffer his devotion to lay him open to the enterprizes of the court of Rome, or the encroachments of his own clergy; on the contrary, they have frequently met with rougher uſage at his hands than they might have expected from a free-thinker.

The regularity of his own life renders him very ſtrict about the conduct of his children, whom he obliges to be out fiſhing or ſhooting as long as he is abſent on the ſame buſineſs. This he does to prevent their having time or opportunity to harbour bad thoughts; and truly I believe he goes out ſo conſtantly himſelf, in order to keep down the vigour of his own conſtitution. He ſeldom addreſſes himſelf to any young men of his court; but delights in converſing and joking with elderly perſons, and ſuch as are of his own age, eſpecially monks and friars. He is very partial to Naples, and always ſpeaks of that country with great feeling.

Since his acceſſion, many great works have been completed; noble roads made to all the palaces round the metropolis; ſeveral others undertaken in more remote provinces. He has finiſhed the palace

palace at Madrid, and added conſiderably to thoſe of the Pardo and Aranjuez; built new towns at Aranjuez, the Eſcurial, and St. Ildefonſo; and planted a great deal at Aranjuez. The Marquis of Grimaldi has the merit of having ſuggeſted and conducted moſt of theſe improvements, and of having urged on the king, who, although he has naturally no great reliſh for the arts, thinks it the duty of a ſovereign to encourage them.

The Prince of Aſturias is of an athletic make, his countenance rather ſevere, and his voice harſh. He ſeemed in a great hurry to get away from us; but the princeſs ſtayed chatting a great while. She is not handſome, being very ſickly, but ſeems lively, and genteelly ſhaped, with a very fine hand and arm. If ſhe lives to be queen, I dare ſay ſhe will render this court a very gay one; for ſhe appears to like to go abroad, and converſe with ſtrangers. When ſhe walks out, all perſons that have been preſented, and chance to be in the way, are expected to join her company, and eſcort her as long as ſhe thinks proper. Her mildneſs and good-nature have ſoftened much of her huſband's roughneſs of manner; and of late he ſeems to have more pleaſure in ſitting with her in a domeſtic way, than in trudging over the heath in queſt of game.

Don Gabriel is a tall well-looking man, but timid to exceſs. He poſſeſſes many talants, but his conſtant avocations out of doors prevent his applying to ſtudy as much as he could wiſh. I have ſeen ſome good pictures done by him, and have heard much of his claſſical learning, and turn for mathematics.

Don Antonio appears to be very well pleaſed with the active life of a ſportſman.

The Infanta Maria Joſepha has reaſon to envy every country wench ſhe ſees roaming at liberty; for confinement, etiquette, and celibacy, are likely to be her lot during life.

Don Lewis, the king's brother, after having been a cardinal and an archbiſhop, is now on the eve of matrimony with a pretty Arragoneſe girl, whom he took a fancy to laſt year, as ſhe was running acroſs the fields after a butterfly. As he has made a collection of natural hiſtory, the ſimilarity of taſte made a great impreſſion upon him. This wedding, which the king has conſented to with reluctance, has produced a total revolution in the marriage-laws of Spain. A new pragmatica or edict is publiſhed, to prevent all matches betwixt perſons of unequal rank and quality. By this decree the old cuſtom is abrogated. Heretofore it was out of the power of parents to hinder their children

children from marrying whom they liked, and the church interpoſed to oblige them to make a ſuitable ſettlement upon the young couple.

Don Lewis's bride is not to be allowed the title or rank of a princeſs of the blood, nor are her children to be deemed qualified to ſucceed to the crown. He is to reſide near Talavera, where I make no doubt but he will lead a happy life, as he has a great taſte for muſic and natural hiſtory. His cabinet already contains a very valuable collection of rarities, eſpecially ſuch as are found in the Spaniſh dominions. This prince is chearful, humane, affable, and full of pleaſantry; good qualities that render him the darling of the nation.

The king and all the males of his family wear the enſigns of a great variety of military orders. On their left breaſt is a row of ſtars like the belt of the conſtellation of Orion. They are alſo decorated with the blue ribband of the French order of the Holy Ghoſt, and the inſignia of the Burgundian golden fleece. They have beſides the Neapolitan red ſaſh of St Januarius, the red croſſes of Calatrava, founded in 1158, of St. Jago, dating from 1175, and of Monteſa, inſtituted in 1317, and the green croſs of Alcantara, invented in 1176. After all theſe badges, comes

the blue and white ribband of the Conception of Carlos Tercero, eſtabliſhed by the preſent king, on the birth of the late ſon of the Prince of Aſturias.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. LXXXVI.

CHARACTER OF THE SPANIARDS.

IT has been my conſtant ſtudy, during our tour round Spain, to note down and tranſmit to you every peculiarity that might throw light upon the diſtinctive turn and genius of the nation. Experience has taught me to look upon this method as the beſt, and indeed the only ſure guide to the knowledge of a people; but at the ſame time has made me ſenſible how imperfect an idea is to be acquired by a tranſitory view, in a progreſs of a few months. Cuſtoms that ſtruck me at firſt as unaccountable, from my ignorance of motives and ſituations, have frequently ſince appeared to me not only proper and rational, but

but abſolutely ſo much in the common courſe of things, that I have wondered how I came to put them down as extraordinary.

The miſtakes I have found myſelf guilty of in ſeveral little remarks made in the firſt part of my journey, have rendered me very cautious of deciding upon matters, where I could not come at a knowledge of their cauſes. I therefore very early learned to miſtruſt my ſenſes, and applied where I expected to have my doubts reſolved, and the reaſons of modes and uſages explained to me.

Accordingly I omitted no opportunity of drawing information from the natives of all ranks; from ſtrangers long eſtabliſhed in Spain, and from thoſe who, having reſided but a few years there, were more likely to be ſenſible of the ſingularities of the national diſpoſition. I cannot ſay my endeavours have been crowned with much ſucceſs.

Were I to draw the picture of the Spaniards from the manifold ſketches traced by their countrymen, every province in the kingdom would in its turn appear a Paradiſe, and a Pandœmonium, a ſeat of holy ſpirits, and a receptacle of malicious devils. The moſt contradictory accounts, enforced by the moſt poſitive aſſeverations, have been repeatedly given me of the ſame places. I

have often found the virtue one province prides itſelf in, as being the ſpecific mark of its inhabitants, not only refuſed them by a neighbouring country, but the very oppoſite vice impoſed upon them as their characteriſtic. The Engliſh, French, and other foreigners, living in Spain, are in general but indifferently qualified to decide upon theſe matters. As long as they retain the prejudices they brought from home againſt every thing that claſhes with their native cuſtoms, they are but partial judges; and when once they fall into the ways of the place where commerce has fixed their lot, they become ſuch thorough paced Spaniards, that they can neither perceive the particularities you ſpeak to them of, nor aſſign reaſons for uſes that are grown habitual to them.

As I am not aſhamed to acknowledge my inſufficiency, I frankly confeſs it is not in my power to give what you may think a ſatisfactory character of the Spaniards. Were I inclined to flatter my ſelf-love, I might add, that I do not eſteem any of thoſe who have already written on the ſubject, much better qualified than myſelf. What I can venture to ſay amounts to very little.

The Catalonians appear to be the moſt active, ſtirring ſet of men, the beſt calculated for buſineſs, travelling and manufactories. The Valencians

cians are a more ſullen, ſedate race, better adapted to the occupations of huſbandmen, leſs eager to change place, and of a much more timid, ſuſpicious caſt of mind than the former. The Andaluſians ſeem to me the great talkers and rhodomontadoes of Spain. The Caſtillians have a manly frankneſs, and leſs appearance of cunning and deceit. The new Caſtillians are perhaps the leaſt induſtrious of the whole nation; the old Caſtillians are laborious, and retain more of ancient ſimplicity of manners; both are of a firm, determined ſpirit. I take the Arragoneſe to be a mixture of the Caſtillians and Catalonians, rather inclining to the former. The Biſcayners are acute and diligent, fiery and impatient of controul; more reſembling a colony of republicans, than a province of an abſolute monarchy. The Galicians are a plodding, pains-taking race of mortals, that roam over Spain in ſearch of an hardly-earned ſubſiſtence.

The liſtleſs indolence equally dear to the uncivilized ſavage, and to the degenerate ſlave of deſpotiſm, is no where more indulged than in Spain. Thouſands of men in all parts of the realm are ſeen to paſs their whole day, wrapped up in a cloak, ſtanding in rows againſt a wall, or dozing under a tree. In total want of every ex-

citement to action, the ſprings of their intellectual faculties forget to play, their views grow confined within the wretched ſphere of mere exiſtence, and they ſcarce ſeem to hope or foreſee any thing better than their preſent ſtate of vegetation. They feel little or no concern for the welfare or glory of a country, where the ſurface of the earth is engroſſed by a few over-grown families, who ſeldom beſtow a thought on the condition of their vaſſals. The poor Spaniard does not work, unleſs urged by irreſiſtible want, becauſe he perceives no advantage accrue from induſtry. As his food and raiment are purchaſed at a ſmall expence, he ſpends no more time in labour, than is abſolutely neceſſary for procuring the ſcanty proviſion his abſtemiouſneſs requires. I have heard a peaſant refuſe to run an errand, becauſe he had that morning earned as much already as would laſt him the day, without putting himſelf to any further trouble.

Yet I am convinced that this lazineſs is not eſſentially inherent in the Spaniſh compoſition. For it is impoſſible, without ſeeing them, to conceive with what eagerneſs they purſue any favourite ſcheme, with what violence their paſſions work upon them, and what vigour and exertion of powers they diſplay when awakened by a bull-

feaſt,

feaſt, or the more conſtant agitation of gaming, a vice to which they are ſuperlatively addicted. Were it again poſſible, by an intelligent, ſpirited adminiſtration, to ſet before their eyes, in a clear and forcible manner, proper incitements to activity and induſtry, the Spaniards might yet be rouſed from their lethargy, and led to riches and reputation; but I confeſs the taſk is ſo difficult, that I look upon it rather as an Utopian idea, than as a revolution likely ever to take place.

Their ſoldiers are brave, and patient of hardſhips. Wherever their officers lead them, they will follow without flinching, though it be up to the mouth of a battery of cannon; but unleſs the example be given them by their commander, not a ſtep will they advance.

Moſt of the Spaniards are hardy; and, when once engaged, go through difficulties without murmuring, bear the inclemencies of the ſeaſons with firmneſs, and ſupport fatigue with amazing perſeverance. They ſleep every night in their cloaks on the ground; are ſparing in diet, perhaps more from a ſenſe of habitual indigence, than from any averſion to gluttony. Whenever they can riot in the plenty of another man's table, they will gormandize to exceſs, and, not content with eating their fill, will carry off what-

ever they can ſtuff into their pockets. I have more than once been a witneſs to the pillage of a ſupper, by the numerous beaux and admirers which the ladies lead after them in triumph, wherever they are invited. They are fond of ſpices, and ſcarce eat any thing without ſaffron, pimento, or garlic. They delight in wine that taſtes ſtrong of the pitched ſkin, and of oil that has a rank ſmell and taſte. Indeed, the ſame oil feeds their lamp, ſwims in their pottage, and dreſſes their ſallad. In inns the lighted lamp is frequently handed down to the table, that each man may take the quantity he chuſes. Much tobacco is uſed by them in ſmoaking and chewing. All theſe hot, drying kinds of food, co-operating with the parching qualities of the atmoſphere, are aſſigned as cauſes of the ſpare make of the common people in Spain, where the prieſts and the inn-keepers are almoſt the only well-fed, portly figures to be met with.

The Spaniſh is by no means naturally a ſerious melancholy nation. Miſery and diſcontent have caſt a gloom over them, increaſed, no doubt, by the long habit of diſtruſt and terror inſpired by the inquiſition; yet every village ſtill reſounds with the muſic of voices and guitars; and their fairs and Sunday wakes are remarkable noiſy and riotous.

ous. They talk louder, and argue with more vehemence than even the French or Italians, and geſticulate with equal, if not ſuperior eagerneſs. In Catalonia the young men are expert at ball; and every village has its *pelota*, or ground for playing at fives; but in the South of Spain, I never perceived that the inhabitants uſed any particular exerciſe. I am told, that in the iſland of Majorca they ſtill wield the ſling, for which their anceſtors, the Baleares, were ſo much renowned.

Like moſt people of ſouthern climates, they are dirty in their perſons, and over-run with vermin.

As their conſtitution may be ſaid to be made up of the moſt combuſtible ingredients, and prone to love in a degree that natives of more northern latitudes can have no idea of, the cuſtom of embracing perſons of the other ſex, which is uſed on many occaſions by foreigners, ſets the Spaniards all on fire. They would as ſoon allow a man to paſs the night in bed with their wives or daughters, as ſuffer him to give them a kiſs.

I was ſurpriſed to find them ſo much more lukewarm in their devotion than I expected; but I will not take upon me to aſſert, though I have great reaſon to believe it, that there is in Spain as little true moral religion as in any country I ever travelled through, although none abounds more

with provincial protectors, local Madonnas, and altars celebrated for particular cures and indulgencies. Religion is a topic not to be touched, much leſs handled with any degree of curioſity, in the dominions of ſo tremendous a tribunal as the Inquiſition. From what little I ſaw, I am apt to ſuſpect, that the people here trouble themſelves with very few ſerious thoughts on the ſubject; and that, provided they can bring themſelves to believe that their favourite ſaint looks upon them with an eye of affection, they take it for granted, that under his benign influence, they are freed from all apprehenſions of damnation in a future ſtate; and indeed, from any great concern about the moral duties of this life. The burning zeal which diſtinguiſhed their anceſtors above the reſt of the Catholic world, appears to have loſt much of its activity, and really ſeems nearly extinguiſhed. It is hard to aſcribe bounds to the changes a crafty, ſteady, and popular monarch might make in eccleſiaſtical matters. The unconcern betrayed by the whole nation at the fall of the Jeſuits, is a ſtrong proof of their preſent indifference. Thoſe fathers, the moſt powerful body politic in the kingdom, the rulers of the palace, and the deſpots of the cottage, the directors of the conſcience, and diſpoſers of the fortune of every rank of men, were all

all ſeized in one night, by detachments of ſoldiers, hurried like malefactors to the ſea-ports, and baniſhed for ever from the realm, without the leaſt reſiſtance to the royal mandate being made, or even threatened. Their very memory ſeems to be annihilated with their power.

We found the common people inoffenſive, if not civil; and having never had an opportunity of being witneſſes to any of their exceſſes, can ſay nothing of their violent jealouſy or revenge, which are points moſt writers on Spain have expatiated upon with great pleaſure. I believe in this line, as well as in many others, their bad as well as good qualities have been magnified many degrees above the truth.

The national qualities, good and bad, conſpicuous in the lower claſſes of men, are eaſily traced, and very diſcernible in thoſe of higher rank; for their education is too much neglected, their minds too little enlightened by ſtudy or communication with other nations, to rub off the general ruſt, with which the Spaniſh genius has, for above an age, been as it were incruſtated. The public ſchools and univerſities are in a deſpicable ſtate of ignorance and irregularity. Some feeble hope of future reformation is indulged by patriots; but time muſt ſhew what probabilities they are grounded on.

The

The reigns of Charles V. and Philip II. were the times of great men and good authors, the Spaniſh Auguſtan age, and continued a few years under Philip III. Since thoſe days, it is difficult to point out any original work of learning or merit, except thoſe of Cervantes and La Vega, who ſurvived the reſt of the geniuſes of that period.

The common education of an Engliſh gentleman would conſtitute a man of learning here; and ſhould he underſtand Greek, he would be quite a phænomenon.

As to the nobility, I wonder how they ever learned to read or write; or having once attained ſo much, how they contrive not to forget it. It is difficult to ſay what they paſs their time in; or what means, beſides inattention to buſineſs, they employ in running through their immenſe incomes.

In the great houſes one cuſtom may contribute to extravagance. A ſervant once eſtabliſhed, is never diſcharged, unleſs for ſome very enormous offence. He and his family remain penſioners as long as they live. The Duke of I——— pays near ten thouſand pounds ſterling a year in wages and annuities to ſervants.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. LXXXVII.

OF THE SPANISH LADIES.

THE Spaniſh women are in general little and thin. Few are ſtrikingly beautiful, but almoſt all have ſparkling black eyes, full of expreſſion. It is not the faſhion here, as in France, to heighten their *eclat* with paint. They are endowed by nature with a great deal of wit and lively repartee, but for want of the poliſh and ſuccours of education, their wit remains obſcured by the rudeſt ignorance, and the moſt ridiculous prejudices. Their tempers having never been faſhioned by polite intercourſe, nor ſoftened by neceſſary contradiction, are extremely pettiſh and violent. They are continually pouting about ſomething or other, and put out of humour by the mereſt trifles.

Moſt of the ladies about court are the reverſe of handſome, and do not ſeem to have any ambition of paſſing for clever or accompliſhed. Not one talent do they poſſeſs; nor do they ever work, read, write, or touch any muſical inſtrument. Their *Cortejo*, or gallant, ſeems their only plaything. I believe no country exhibits more bare-

faced

faced amours, and ſuch an appearance of indelicate debauchery as this.

The account given me of their manner of living in the family way, as ſoon as they come out of the convent, and before they have fixed upon a lover, to fill up their time more agreeably, is as follows:—They riſe late, and loiter away the remains of the morning among their attendants, or wear it out at church in a long bead-roll of habitual unmeaning prayers. They dine ſparingly, ſleep, and then dreſs to ſaunter for a couple of hours on the Prado. They are never without ſome ſort of ſugar-plum or high ſpiced comfit in their mouths.

As ſoon as it is dark, they run to the houſe of ſome elderly female relation, where they all huddle together over a pan of coals, and would not for the world approach the company that may occaſionally drop in. It would throw them into the greateſt confuſion were they to be requeſted to join in the converſation. The hour of aſſembly paſſed, they hurry home to their maids, and, with their help, ſet about dreſſing their own ſuppers by way of amuſement.

SWINBURNE.

SECT.

SECT. LXXXVIII.

ANECDOTE OF A FRIAR.

A VERY furious example of paſſion and cruelty happened while I was in Spain. A Carmelite friar fell deſperately in love with a young woman, to whom he was confeſſor. He tried every art of ſeduction his deſires could ſuggeſt to him; but to his unſpeakable vexation, found her virtue or indifference proof againſt all his machinations. His deſpair was heightened to a pitch of madneſs, upon hearing that ſhe was ſoon to be married to a perſon of her own rank in life. The furies of jealouſy ſeized his ſoul, and worked him up to the moſt barbarous of all determinations, that of depriving his rival of the prize, by putting an end to her exiſtence. He choſe Eaſter-week for the perpetration of his crime. The unſuſpecting girl came to the confeſſional, and poured out her ſoul at his feet. Her innocence ſerved only to inflame his rage the more, and to confirm him in his bloody purpoſe. He gave her abſolution and the ſacrament with his own hands, as his love deterred him from murdering her before he thought ſhe was purified

rified from all ſtain of ſin, and her ſoul fit to take its flight to the tribunal of its Creator; but his jealouſy and revenge urged him to purſue her down the church, and plunge his dagger in her heart, as ſhe turned round to make a genuflection to the altar. He was immediately ſeized, and ſoon condemned to die; but leſt his ignominious execution ſhould reflect diſhonour on a religious order, which boaſts of having an aunt of the king of France among its members, his ſentence was changed into perpetual labour among the galley ſlaves of Porto Rico.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. LXXXIX.

OF THE BATHS AT BAGNERES.

BAGNERES derives its name from the mineral baths which were known and frequented by the ancient Romans, as many inſcriptions and monuments ſtill exiſting on the ſpot, ſatisfactorily demonſtrate.

The peaſants of the neighbourhood are a lively race,

race, and often aſſemble in a ſhady walk near the gates to dance. One of the queens of Navarre remitted all fines upon alienation of property at Bagneres, on condition that a ſmall ſum ſhould be levied upon each perſon admitted to his freedom, and ſpent in bonefires and other merry expences at Midſummer.

The ſituation of this place is happily calculated for all exerciſes that tend to the recovery of health. It is built on a flat and very dry ſoil. Every part of it enjoys an eaſy communication with the fields, the banks of the river, or the high-roads, where the weaker ſort of viſitants may breathe the freſh air, and regain ſtrength by moderate exertions; while the more vigorous, who repair to Bagneres for the ſake of amuſement, may climb delightful hills, and wander among ſhady groves, through a variety of landſcape. The plain and eminences are traverſed by innumerable paths acceſſible to horſemen as well as foot-paſſengers. The high grounds are not like thoſe in the Alps, broken and precipitous, but eaſily ſloped, and clothed with ſoft and pleaſant verdure. The timber that crowns their ſummits is of the nobleſt ſize. In the heart of cultivation, and near the foot of the mountains, the Spaniſh cheſnut predominates, intermingled with cherry, walnut,

walnut, and other fruit trees, round which the the vine entwines its tendrils. Higher up the extent of paſture becomes more conſiderable. The middle regions of the mountains are darkened with woods of beech overhung by foreſts of ſilver fir, and above all, black pinnacles of rocks ſhoot up to a frightful height, with here and there a wreath of ſnow preſerved unmelted through the ſummer by the protection of their ſhade.

That ſide of the mountains which faces the noontide ſun is richly covered with wood; but the oppoſite ſlope is ſeldom ſo beautiful, for it produces fewer trees, and thoſe of a ſtinted growth. The greateſt part of theſe foreſts is the common property of the neighbouring villages, and as high as carriage can be eaſily contrived, is cut after a regular but careleſs manner, for the ſupply of fuel, and the purpoſes of huſbandry.

The medicinal waters at Bagneres have alone reſcued this valley from the obſcurity which involves ſo many neighbouring beautiful diſtricts. A great number of boiling, lukewarm, and cold ſtreams, iſſue out of the ſides of the mountain that covers the town on the weſtern aſpect. All of them poſſeſs, or are ſuppoſed to poſſeſs, very ſtrong healing qualities, which each patient applies with great confidence

fidence to his particular diſorder, under the directions of the phyſicians of the place. The ſummit of this mountain is indented with a large hollow, ſimilar to the crater of a volcano, and I have no doubt but fire has been emitted from this cup at ſome period beyond the reach of hiſtory. The fire which was then ſufficient to produce exploſions, and to caſt forth torrents of lava, ſtill retains the power, in its weaker ſtate, of imparting virtue in various degrees to the mineral ſprings that flow from the mountain where its focus is eſtabliſhed.

The number of wells and baths amounts to thirty. Some are covered in for the uſe of patients, who can afford to pay for their cures. Others are open pools, where the poorer claſs gargle their ulcerous throats, or lave their ſores, gratis. The heat of ſome ſpouts is at firſt almoſt inſupportable, but gradually grows leſs painful. I have ſeen people expoſe their diſeaſed limbs to the boiling ſtream for more than a quarter of an hour at a time. The hotteſt ſpring raiſes the quickſilver in Farrenheit's thermometer to 123 degrees, while the cooleſt cauſes it to aſcend no higher than 86. Out of the thirty different ſources two are exactly equal in heat to that of the human body, ten below, and eighteen above it. Their medicinal qualities differ no leſs eſſentially than their degrees of heat;

for

for the waters of the Queen's bath are ſtrongly purgative, thoſe of Salut and Le Pré diuretic and cooling.

The bath of Salut is ſituated about a mile from the town, among the mountains. A pleaſant winding road leads to it, through beautiful fields planted with clumps of cheſnut trees. The houſes and groves on the ſurrounding hills cheer the proſpect; but in ſo hot a ſeaſon, and in this latitude, an avenue would be a greater improvement and relief to the patients.

The ſpring is copious, and equal to the demands of the crouds that flock round it on holidays, when every perſon may drink his fill for the value of three farthings Engliſh. The vogue is ſo great, that two guineas have been taken in one morning, at this low price.

From the drinking place the waters are conveyed into two marble troughs, which are in conſtant uſe during the whole ſeaſon. Seniority of reſidence conſtitutes the right of bathing, and therefore many late comers, who foreſee but a diſtant proſpect of being accommodated with an hour of Salut, take up with the other baths of inferior reputation, but perhaps equal efficacy. The degree of heat of Salut is 88½. When evaporated by a ſlow equal fire, the ſurface of its water

is

is covered with a pellicle formed by ſmall inſipid chryſtals, which towards the completion of the evaporation acquire conſiderable acritude. Theſe waters contain no particles of iron, but ſmall parallelopiped pyrites are frequently found in them, of a bright golden colour, and about an inch long.

SECT. XC.

JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF THE PYRENEAN MOUNTAINS.

I RETURNED yeſterday to Bagneres from a journey on horſeback, through the moſt romantic and curious part of the Pyrenees, and haſten to impart my obſervations, while each idea is ſtill impreſſed with force on "the tablet of my memory."

I ſet out on the ſixth of Auguſt with ſome friends, and travelled up the valley. The low grounds are finely cultivated. Numberleſs ſtreams pour acroſs the road, and hurry to blend their waters with thoſe of the Adour, which is here confined

fined to a narrow bed. Beyond it eaſtward, the mountains are covered with beautiful verdure. At their foot ſtands Aſté, a village belonging to the family of Grammont.

A peaſant who reſides here, earns a livelihood by ſupplying the apothecaries with medicinal plants, which he gathers on the adjacent mountains, particularly that of Lieris, juſtly celebrated for the immenſe and variegated ſhew of flowers, that cover its elevated paſtures, before ſheep and cattle are let in to graze.

The convent of capuchins, at Medous, oppoſite to Aſté, is placed ſo cloſely under a mountain, that in winter it enjoys but two hours ſunſhine in the whole day. Its garden is remarkable for a large volume of water, that iſſues out of the rocks. Trouts are often ſeen ſwimming down the ſtream, but if diſturbed, they retire into the bowels of the mountain, to ſome ſubterraneous lake.

The populouſneſs of this vale is ſcarce credible. In the extent of three miles I reckoned near five hundred houſes or barns. The burgh of Campan gives name to the upper diſtrict, and is famous for the excellency of its butter. It acknowledges no lord but the king, and has conſiderable

derable woods and cultivated lands, appertaining to its community.

At a ſmall diſtance above the town, we were conducted to a celebrated grotto, in the ſide of a bare mountain. The entrance is narrow and ſloping, but at the depth of ten feet, the floor of the cavern lies nearly on a level. The vault ſeldom exceeds nine feet in height. Its length is an hundred and four yards. The path is wet and rugged. The walls and roof are incruſtated with chryſtaliſations; but all that were curious for ſize, ſhape, or beauty of colour, had been broken off and carried away by preceding travellers. At the end of the grotto we found a marble ſlab, fixed up by order of the counteſs of Brionne, to commemorate, that after infinite labour, ſhe, with her family and ſervants, whoſe names are all conſigned to immortality on this ſubterraneous monument, penetrated thus far into the bowels of the earth, in the year 1766.

Above Campan the valley grew more confined. The hills on the right hand were ſtudded with trees and barns, and covered with lively verdure; thoſe on the left, were rocky, barren, and ſavage. At the chapel of St. Mary, two branches of the Adour flow from different glens and join their waters. We rode up the more weſtern

ſtream to Grip, where all level ground terminates. Noble groves of fir overhang the river, which daſhes ſucceſſively down three romantic falls. Having taken ſome refreſhment we proceeded up the mountain by a winding, ſteep, and rugged path, through a foreſt of ſilver and ſpruce firs. We occaſionally caught views of the river foaming among the rocks and trees, and in one ſpot darting over a vaſt precipice in a full, magnificent ſheet.

Upon leaving the woods we croſſed a large naked plain, at the foot of the Pic du midi, the higheſt mountain of the Pyrenees. The Adour iſſues out of a pyramidical hill, a few miles farther up, and winds in a ſmall ſtream through the ruſhy paſtures. Abundance of flowers animate the face of this otherwiſe dull ſcene of nature. We were now arrived at the higheſt point of land we had to ſurmount, when we were ſurpriſed by a very heavy fall of ſnow, that whitened all the ſurrounding eminences, but ſoon melted into rain and wetted us thoroughly.

When the ſtorm abated, and the atmoſphere grew clear, a horrible view opened down the valley of Bareges. Rude and barren mountains ſhade it on both ſides, and the Baſton, a foaming torrent, fills the intermediate hollow. We deſcended

ſcended by the edge of the river, and entered one of the bleakeſt and moſt deſolate places in nature, where not a tree was to be ſeen; but the heights were ſeamed with yawning crevices, and the paſſages blocked up with quarries of ſtone, tumbled from the cliffs by the irreſiſtible force of the waters.

In this frightful chaſm ſtands the village of Bareges, conſiſting of a ſingle ſtreet built along the ſouth ſide of the torrent. The ſituation is ſo dangerous and horrid, that the inhabitants dare not abide here in winter. They remove all their furniture, even doors and windows, to ſuch houſes as are ſuppoſed moſt out of the way of miſchief. A few invalid ſoldiers alone remain, to preſerve the ſprings from being buried under the earth that ſlides down from the mountains. Sometime a large volume of water burſts out of its ſide, the overplus of a lake on the ſummit, and ſweeps off all before it. Every year ſome houſes are waſhed away by the floods, or cruſhed under the weight of ſnow. The *avelanches*, or heaps of ſnow that are detached from the mountains, are often ſo prodigious as to fill up the whole bottom of the glen; and the river has been known to roll for ſeveral weeks through an arch of its own forming under this immeaſurable maſs.

The mineral waters, for which Bareges is famed, iſſue out of the hill in the center of the village, and are diſtributed into three baths. They are very fetid, but clear in the glaſs. Their degrees of heat riſe from 89 to 112¾. They are greaſy to the touch, tinge ſilver black, and are eſteemed ſovereign in the cure of ulcers, wounds, and ſcrophulous humours. The baths belong to the king, and are entirely under the direction of his ſurgeons.

The poor have the uſe of a large bath covered with boards, and are fed by a tax of ſix livres impoſed upon all new comers. With this fund a comfortable dinner is provided for them, and diſtributed in preſence of the governor, a worthy veteran, who ſolicited this command from a motive of gratitude, having been cured of a dangerous wound by bathing it with theſe waters.

No company reſorts hither merely for amuſement. Diſorders only, and thoſe ſevere and inveterate ones, can induce people to inhabit theſe wild regions. There is an aſſembly-room and regular bath, when it is, I know not whether a melancholy or a ludicrous ſight, to behold ſeveral couples dancing together, ſome with a leg bound up, others with an arm in a ſling, and all with a feeble body and a ſickly aſpect.

In

In theſe mountainous ſcenes nature exhibits her boldeſt features. Here every object is extended upon a vaſt ſcale, and the whole aſſemblage impreſſes the ſpectator with awe as well as admiration. I wiſh it were poſſible for me to communicate, by means of words or paintings, the rapturous ſenſations excited in my mind by the ſight of thoſe ſublime works of the Creator.

As we advanced on our journey we found ourſelves immured in a narrow valley, with the Gave roaring below us, between walls of immenſe rocks, and frequently hidden from our view by thick groves of lime and oak trees. The path was wide enough for our mountain horſes, but very alarming to ſome unexperienced travellers in our company. On one hand a perpendicular rock, without any parapet, laid open the deep gloomy bed of the river almoſt under our feet, and a ſhivery mountain preſſed ſo cloſe upon us on the other, as to leave no room for a retreat. The turns in the road, where torrents have heaped ſtones, and choaked the paſs with rubbiſh, are particularly diſtreſſing; but our horſes were ſo unconcerned and ſure-footed, that they ſoon inſpired their riders with equal indifference for the ſurrounding perils.

The whole valley is occupied by the river and

the road, with vaſt piles of mountains riſing on each ſide, and almoſt cloſing together. Now and then level ſpots occur at the angles of the river. We croſſed a bridge romantically clothed with ivy, which hid the tremendous chaſm from our eyes. Huge rocks rear up their perpendicular points, and torrents ruſh over them on all ſides. The mountain-aſh, and ſervice-tree, bluſhing with cluſtered berries, bend over the precipices, and ſoften the harſhneſs of the wild proſpect. After this the valley rather ſwells out, and more room is allowed for the indefatigable induſtry of the inhabitants to exert itſelf; but great part of the level, and all the lower regions of the mountains, are overgrown with wood, interſperſed with a charming variety of flowering ſhrubs. Many of the favourite denizons of our Engliſh gardens flouriſh here in all their native luxuriancy.

This dale terminates at Gedres, a rambling village on the ſide of the mountain. The road is afterwards cut through the rock, and leads to a ſituation that gave us an idea of confuſion and deſolation, the effects of ſome violent earthquake. The mountain is ſplit and torn to pieces. Its ſides and foot are ſtrewed with innumerable huge blocks of ſtone, detached from the impending ridge that forms its bare ſummit. The paſſage through this

rocky

rocky labyrinth opened to a magnificent amphitheatre. On the top waved thick foreſts of firs, through which ſeveral ſtreams forcing their way, daſhed down the lofty precipice, but almoſt vaniſhed away in miſt before they could reach the bottom. The field below was beautifully overſpread with purple monkſhood.

Our morning's expedition ended at Gabarnie, where we found good accommodations prepared for us by a meſſenger we had diſpatched the preceding day. This is a village conſiſting of a church, and thirty houſes, in the midſt of bare hills, ſhaded by very high mountains, and traverſed in ſeveral directions, by foaming torrents. The curate partook of our dinner, after we had removed the table to the door of the inn; for he durſt neither eat nor drink within the walls of a publick houſe. We found him a modeſt converſable man, worthy of a richer ſettlement.

After dinner we travelled towards the head of the Gave, the object of our journey. We had long had in view the ſnow-capped-cliffs from which its waters iſſue, but were ſurpriſed to find them ſtill ſo diſtant from us. We ſpent an hour and a half in riding acroſs a bare tract of paſture, cloſed in with immenſe foreſts of evergreens on the French ſide, and along the Spaniſh frontier, which lies on

the right hand, confined by bare rocky mountains. This plain is called the *Prade*. The river follows a ſerpentine courſe through it. In winter it is generally covered with ſnow forty feet deep.

Our guide having now brought us to his *ne plus ultra*, preſſed us earneſtly to alight, as no horſe had ever advanced beyond this paſs. But as we were not contented with ſo diſtant a view, we rejected his timid advice, and clambering over ſeveral rocky eminences, plunged into the river, which by its limpidity deceived our eye, both as to the depth of the water, and the ſize of the rocks at the bottom. It required our utmoſt exertions to extricate our horſes, and bear them ſafe through to the oppoſite bank. This difficulty being overcome, all others appeared contemptible, and we ſoon reached the center of a moſt ſtupendous amphitheatre. Three ſides of it are formed by a range of perpendicular rocks. The fourth is ſhaded with wood. Above the upright wall, which is of a horrible height, riſe ſeveral ſtages of broken maſſes, each covered with a layer of everlaſting ſnow. The mountain eaſtward ends in ſharp pinnacles, and runs off to the weſt in one immenſe bank of ſnow. From theſe concealed heaps the Gave derives its excellence. Thirteen ſtreams

ruſh

ruſh down the mighty precipice, and unite their waters at its foot.

The whole weſtern corner of the area below is filled with a bed of ſnow, which being ſtruck by few rays of the ſun at any ſeaſon, receives a ſufficient volume of freſh ſnow every winter, to balance the loſs occaſioned by the warmth of the atmoſphere in ſummer. Two of the torrents fell upon this extenſive frozen ſurface. They have worn a huge chaſm, and extending from it, a vaulted paſſage five hundred yards in length, through which their waters roll. We boldly rode over this extraordinary bridge, and alighting at the foot of the rocks, walked down the paſſage. The ſnow lies above it near twenty feet thick. The roof is about ſix feet above the ground, and finely turned in an arch, which appears as if it had been cut and chiſſeled by the hand of man. In ſome places there are columns and collateral galleries. The whole glittered like a diamond, and was beautifully pervaded by the light. The only inconvenience we felt, aroſe from the dripping occaſioned by the extreme heat of the day, by which even this great body of ſnow was ſtrongly affected.

As we emerged with the river from this ſingular grotto, we unharboured three chamoy gouts,

that had taken refuge in the mouth of the cave, againſt the burning rays of noon. They darted acroſs the plain, and aſcended the ſteepeſt parts of the rocks, where we ſoon loſt ſight of them. Theſe animals are called *Ysards* in this country. They are rather ſmaller than the fallow deer, of a muddy reddiſh yellow colour, with ſnubbed noſe, and ſhort black horns. In ſhape they reſemble a deer, walking with their heads upright, and ſkipping away with admirable ſwiftneſs. But they do not bound; they run when at full ſtretch. No beaſt of the foreſt is of more difficult acceſs. They ſeldom quit the higheſt and moſt inacceſſible parts of the mountains. During the wintry ſtorms they have been ſeen fixed on the brow of a precipice, with their faces towards the wind, probably to prevent the rain and ſnow from lodging under their hair.

Notwithſtanding their ſuſpicious, wild nature, and their extreme velocity, the hardy mountaineers find means to deſtroy them. They lie out whole days and nights watching their opportunity, and making good uſe of it when it offers; for they are excellent markſmen. They have frequently as much difficulty in reaching the dead prey, as in approaching it while living. The fleſh of the

Ysard

Ysard is much eſteemed. Its ſkin makes ſoft and uſeful gloves.

The ſetting of the ſun rouſed us from the ecſtacy in which the contemplation of theſe awful ſcenes had enwrapped every ſenſe, and warned us to retire before the want of light ſhould render thoſe paſſages doubly dangerous, which we had found very difficult even in the glare of day. The ſun ſank behind the ſnowy cliffs in admirable beauty, tinging the mountains with a rich variety of fiery hues, which died away into the moſt tender tints of purple.

The mountains abound with game, the rivers with fiſh. Here are no lords of manorial rights, and therefore game is the property of every member of the community that can catch it. Except ſome tracts of wood reſerved for the uſe of the navy, all the foreſts are held in common.

SWINBURNE.

SECT. XCI.

OF PORTUGAL IN GENERAL; THE PRODUCE OF THE COUNTRY, AND THE CUSTOMS AND MANNERS OF THE PEOPLE.

THE kingdom of Portugal is ſituated to the weſt of Spain, from which it is ſeparated on the north and the eaſt by the river Minho, and ſome ſmall rivers and hills; on the ſouth and weſt it is waſhed by the ſea. Its whole extent from north to ſouth is three hundred miles, and its breadth from eaſt to weſt, where broadeſt, is about one hundred and twenty. It is in the ſame climate with Spain, and as well as that country, is very mountainous; but the ſoil is in general worſe, and never produces corn enough for the ſupport of its inhabitants. As to wheat, it has always produced leſs of that valuable grain, than what the people require. In the ſouthern parts paſture is always ſcarce, and the cattle ſmall and lean, though the fleſh is generally well taſted. But to make amends for this want of corn and paſture, here are made vaſt quantities of wine, which is indeed the beſt commodity of this kingdom. Oil is alſo made

made here in great abundance, but it is far inferior to that of Spain and Italy. Lemons and oranges likewiſe grow here; and are exported in great quantities, though the acidity of the latter is not near ſo pleaſant, as thoſe that come from Seville; nor indeed are their raiſins, figs, almonds, and cheſnuts either ſo large, or ſo well taſted as thoſe of Spain. However, their ſweet oranges, which they have introduced from China, and are thence called China oranges, are the beſt of the kind in Europe. Herbs and flowers of all ſorts are here commonly very good, and abundance of perfumed waters are diſtilled from thoſe of the odoriferous kind, which are here in great requeſt, they being uſed in almoſt every thing that is eat, drank, or worn.

The woollen manufactures of this country are ſo indifferent and coarſe, that they are only worn by the meanner ſort; and though their ſilks are in ſome places much better, they are far inferior in beauty and goodneſs to thoſe made in Spain.

The modern Portugueſe retain nothing of that adventurous enterprizing ſpirit that rendered their forefathers ſo illuſtrious three hundred years ago. They have, ever ſince the houſe of Braganza mounted the throne, degenerated in all their virtues; though ſome noble exceptions are ſtill remaining

maining among them, and no people are ſo little obliged as the Portugueſe are to the reports of hiſtorians and travellers. Their degeneracy is evidently owing to the weakneſs of their monarchy, which renders them inactive; and that inactivity has proved the ſource of pride, and other unmanly vices. Treachery has been laid to their charge, as well as ingratitude, and above all, an intemperate paſſion for revenge. They are, if poſſible, more ſuperſtitious, and, both in high and common life, effect more ſtate than the Spaniards themſelves. Among the lower people, thieving is commonly practiſed; and all ranks are accuſed of being unfair in their dealings, eſpecially with ſtrangers. It is hard, however, to ſay what alteration may be made in the character of the Portugueſe, by the expulſion of the Jeſuits, and the diminution of the papal influence among them, but above all, by that ſpirit of independency, with regard to commercial affairs, upon Great Britain, which, not much to the honour of their gratitude, though to the intereſt of their own country, is now ſo much encouraged by their court and miniſtry.

The Portugueſe are neither ſo tall nor ſo well made as the Spaniards, whoſe habits and cuſtoms they

they imitate; only the quality affect to be more gaily and richly dreſſed.

The women are moſtly beautiful when young, though their complexion is inclinable to the olive; but the indiſcreet uſe of paint renders their ſkins ſhrivelled as with old age, before they are turned of thirty. Their eyes, however, which are generally black and ſparkling, retain their luſtre after their other charms are withered. The quick decay of beauty is in ſome meaſure recompenced by the vivacity of their wit, in which they are ſaid to excel the women of all other nations. They are extremely charitable and generous, and remarkable for their modeſty.

Spectacles are commonly worn here as well as in Spain, as a mark of age and gravity; for it is obſervable of theſe two nations, that old age, with a grave and ſolemn behaviour, procure ſuch reſpect, that the young affect to imitate the ſolemnity of the old.

Liſbon, the capital of Portugal, is built upon ſeven hills, and is thought to contain 200,000 inhabitants. Some of the hills riſe up above the reſt; and ſome again are ſo interwoven and contraſted, that they form an agreeable diverſity of hills and vales; ſo that, from the oppoſite ſides of the Tagus, it looks like an immenſe amphitheatre, which has

has all the charms that can be produced by a variety of the moſt ſumptuous edifices, reflecting uncommon beauties upon each other by the happineſs of their ſituation. Nor do the fine proſpects of the country give leſs pleaſure when they are viewed from the eminences in the city: for what can be a finer ſight than a beautiful country, and ſuch a river as the Tagus, covered with foreſts of ſhips from all nations? Its ſituation certainly renders its appearance at once delightful and ſuperb, and it is deſervedly accounted the greateſt port in Europe, next to London and Amſterdam.

The city, before the great earthquake, afforded ſtill a nobler proſpect when viewed from the river, than it does at preſent, on account of the gradual aſcent of the buildings. But this dreadful earthquake, which began on the firſt of November, 1755, at about ten in the morning, laid the fineſt buildings of Liſbon in ruins, and reduced that city to a ſcene of the moſt terrible deſolation. To complete the public diſtreſs, a fire ſoon after broke out and ſpread among the ruins; and by theſe diſaſters the King's Palace, the Cuſtom-houſe, St. Dominic's church, St. Nicholas's, and many others, were either thrown down or conſumed, together with a great number of private houſes. But happily ſome whole ſtreets eſcaped the general calamity, and were left ſtanding entire.

All

All that part of the city which was demoliſhed by the earthquake, is now planned out in the moſt regular and commodious form. Some large ſquares and many ſtreets are already built. The ſtreets form right angles, and are broad and ſpacious. The houſes are lofty, elegant, and uniform; and being built of white ſtone, make a beautiful appearance.

The air here is ſo ſoft, and the ſky ſo clear, that it is quite delicious; which joined to the excellence of the water, makes the inhabitants ſo extremely healthy, that they have the happineſs of living to a very great age, without being oppreſſed with infirmities, and continually attacked by freſh diſorders, as is uſual in other climates. The climate is ſo temperate, that they have roſes and many other ſorts of flowers, even in the winter.

The ſecond city in this kingdom is Oporto, which is computed to contain 30,000 inhabitants. The chief article of commerce in this city is wine; and the inhabitants of half the ſhops in the city are coopers. The merchants aſſemble daily in the chief ſtreet, to tranſact buſineſs, and are protected from the ſun by ſail-cloths hung acroſs from the oppoſite houſes. About thirty Engliſh families reſide here, who are chiefly concerned in the wine-trade.

SECT. XCII.

OF NORWAY, AND BERGEN ITS CAPITAL.

THE climate of Norway is much more various than in moſt other European countries. In the ſummer nights the horizon, when unclouded, is ſo clear and luminous, that at midnight one may read, write, and do all kinds of work as in the day; and in the extremity of this country, towards the iſlands of Finmark, the ſun is continually in view in the midſt of ſummer, and is obſerved to circulate day and night round the north pole, contracting its orbit, and then gradually enlarging it, till at length it leaves the horizon. On the other hand, in the depth of winter the ſun is inviſible for ſome weeks; all the light perceived at noon being a faint glimmering of about an hour and a half's continuance; which, as the ſun never appears above the horizon, chiefly proceeds from the reflection of the rays on the higheſt mountains, whoſe ſummits are ſeen more clearly than any other objects. But the wiſe and bountiful Creator has granted the inhabitants all poſſible aſſiſtance; for beſides the moon-ſhine, which by reflection

tion from the mountains is exceedingly bright in valleys, the people receive conſiderable relief from the *Aurora Borealis*, or northern lights, which often afford them all the light neceſſary to their ordinary labours.

On the eaſt ſide of Norway, the cold of winter generally ſets in about the middle of October, and laſts till the middle of April. The waters are congealed to a thick ice, and the mountains and valleys covered with ſnow. However, this is of ſuch importance to the welfare of the country, that in a mild winter, the peaſants who live among the mountains are conſiderable ſufferers; for without this ſevere froſt and ſnow, they can neither convey the timber they have felled to the rivers, nor carry their corn, butter, furs, and other commodities, in their ſledges, to the market towns; and after the ſale of them carry back the neceſſaries they are ſupplied with. For the largeſt rivers, with their roaring cataracts are arreſted in their courſe by the froſt, and the very ſpittle is no ſooner out of the mouth than it is congealed, and rolls along the ground like hail. But the wiſe Creator has given the inhabitants of this cold climate a greater variety of preſervatives againſt the weather than moſt other countries afford. Extenſive foreſts ſupply them with plenty of timber for building,

and

and for fuel. The wool of the ſheep, and the furs and ſkins of wild beaſts, furniſh them with warm lining for their cloaths, and covering for their beds. Innumerable flights of wildfowl ſupply them with down and feathers. The mountains themſelves ſerve them for fences againſt the north and eaſt winds, and their caverns afford them ſhelter.

In the ſummer months, the weather is not only warm, but very hot. Theſe violent heats, which are, however, of ſhort duration, may be partly derived from the valleys being incloſed within high mountains, where the reverberation of the rays of the ſun on all ſides heat the air; and as there is almoſt no night, neither the atmoſphere nor the mountains have time to cool. Indeed there cannot be a more deciſive proof of the ſummer's heat in Norway, than that ſeveral vegetables, (and particularly barley) grow up and ripen within ſix weeks or two months.

The air is pure and ſalubrious, eſpecially in the middle of the country about the mountains, where the inhabitants know little of ſickneſs. Phyſicians are only to be found in the chief towns, where they are eſtabliſhed with a public ſalary, but have generally very little employment.

Norway contains a vaſt number of mountains, ſome

ſome of which extend themſelves in a long chain from north to ſouth, while others are ſcattered about and ſurrounded by a level country.

The inhabitants of a mountainous country may be ſaid to labour under more inconveniences than others. Thus the arable ground is here but little in compariſon of the waſtes and deſarts, which obliges the inhabitants to procure half their ſubſiſtence from the ſea. The villages are ſmall, and the houſes ſcattered among the valleys. But in ſome places the peaſants' houſes ſtand ſo high, and on the edge of ſteep precipices, that ladders are fixed to climb up to them; ſo that when a clergyman is ſent for, who is unpractiſed in the road, he riſks his life in aſcending them, eſpecially in winter, when the ways are ſlippery. In ſuch places the bodies of the dead muſt be let down with ropes, or be brought on people's backs before they are laid in a coffin; and, at ſome diſtance from Bergen, the mail muſt likewiſe in winter be drawn over the ſteepeſt mountains.

Another evil reſulting from the mountains, is the ſhelter they afford in their caverns and clefts to the wild beaſts, which render it difficult to extirpate them. It is not eaſy to deſcribe the havock made by the lynxes, foxes, bears, and eſpecially wolves, among the cattle, goats, hares, and other uſeful animals.

Another

Another evil is, that the cows, ſheep, and goats belonging to the peaſants, often fall down the precipices and are deſtroyed. Sometimes they make a falſe ſtep into a projection, called a mountain-hammer, where they can neither aſcend nor deſcend. On this occaſion a peaſant chearfully ventures his life for a ſheep or a goat; and deſcending from the top of a mountain by a rope of ſome hundred fathoms in length, he ſlings his body on a croſs ſtick, till he can ſet his foot on the place where his goat is, when he faſtens it to the rope to be drawn up along with himſelf. But the moſt amazing circumſtance is, that he runs this riſk with the help of only a ſingle perſon, who holds the end of the rope, or faſtens it to a ſtone if there be one at hand. There are inſtances of the aſſiſtant himſelf having been dragged down, and ſacrificing his life from fidelity to his friend, on which both have periſhed. On theſe melancholy accidents, when man or beaſt falls ſome hundred fathoms down the precipices, it is obſerved, that the air preſſes with ſuch force againſt their bodies thus falling, that they are not only deprived of life long before they reach the ground, but their bellies burſt, and their entrails guſh out, which is plainly the caſe when they fall into deep water.

The

The country produces wheat, rye, barley, white, grey, and green peaſe; vetches, uſed as provender for horſes; hops, flax, and hemp; many kinds of roots and greens for the kitchen, with a conſiderable number of hardy flowers. In Norway, as well as in Denmark, are ſeveral kinds of cherries, of which the peaſants ſell great quantities dried. There are alſo many ſorts of wholeſome and well-taſted berries, as red and white currants, ſunberries, raſpberries, red and white gooſeberries, barberries, bilberries, cranberries, ſtrawberries, blackberries, and many other kinds. Several ſorts of plums attain to a tolerable ripeneſs, which can very ſeldom be ſaid of peaches, apricots, or grapes. However, apples and pears of ſeveral kinds are found all over the country; but the greateſt part of theſe are ſummer-fruits, which ripen early; for the winter-fruit ſeldom comes to perfection, unleſs the ſummer proves hotter, and the winter ſets in later than uſual.

But though, with reſpect to fruit-trees, Norway muſt be acknowledged inferior to moſt countries in Europe, yet this deficiency is liberally compenſated in the bleſſings of inexhauſtible foreſts; ſo that in moſt provinces immenſe ſums are received from foreigners for maſts, beams, planks, boards, &c. not to mention the home conſumption for

houſes

houſes built entirely of beams of wood, ſhips, bridges, and an infinite number of founderies, which require an immenſe quantity of charcoal, in the fuſion of metals, beſides the demands for fuel and other domeſtic uſes; to which muſt be added, that in many places the woods are felled only to clear the ground and be burnt, the aſhes ſerving for manure.

Bergen, the capital of Norway, has one of the fineſt ports in Europe, and is divided into the upper and lower town, the one built on the rocks, and the other on the ſea-ſhore. It is a large trading town, full of merchants, and was formerly an archbiſhopric; but it has not been acknowledged ſuch ſince the Reformation. The Archbiſhop's palace was given to the *Hans Towns*, for their ancient merchants to live in, and the greateſt part of the houſes were turned into warehouſes, which ſtill bear the name of cloiſters, and the merchants are called monks, though they do not wear a cowl, nor obſerve the rules of any order. The king has, however, obliged them ſo far to keep up the form of a religious houſe, that none of the merchants who live in it are allowed to marry without removing. The principal branch of trade carried on at Bergen, are herrings, cod, and ſtock-fiſh, for which there

there is a great vent in Muſcovy, Sweden, Poland, Denmark, Germany, Holland, and other parts of Europe.

BISHOP OF BERGEN.

SECT. XCIII.

OF THE PERSONS, DRESS, EMPLOYMENTS, AND CUSTOMS OF THE INHABITANTS OF NORWAY.

THE Norwegians are generally tall, well made, and lively; yet thoſe on the coaſt are neither ſo tall nor ſo robuſt as thoſe who inhabit the mountains; but are remarkable for being fatter, and having rounder faces. The people in general are briſk and ingenious; which appears from the peaſants not employing any hatters, ſhoemakers, taylors, tanners, weavers, carpenters, ſmiths, or joiners; for all theſe trades are exerciſed in every farmhouſe; and they think a boy can never be a uſeful member of ſociety, nor a good man, without making himſelf maſter of all theſe arts. They are re-

markable for their civility and willingneſs to ſerve every one, and a traveller is ſeldom ſuffered to pay for his lodging; for they think it their duty to treat the ſtranger as well as it is in their power, and look upon it as an honour done them, if he accepts of their civilities. The peaſant, however, never gives the upper end of the table to the greateſt gueſt that ever comes under his roof; for he thinks that place belongs only to himſelf.

They keep open houſe for three weeks at Chriſtmas, during which their tables are ſpread and loaded with the beſt proviſions they can afford. At Chriſtmas-eve their hoſpitality extends to the very birds; and, for their uſe, they hang on a pole at the barn-door, an unthreſhed ſheaf of corn, which draws thither the ſparrows and other ſmall birds.

The inhabitants of the trading towns live, with reſpect to proviſions, much in the ſame manner as the Danes; but the peaſants keep cloſe to the manners of their fore-fathers. Thin oat-cakes are their common bread; but upon particular occaſions, as weddings or entertainments, they have rye-bread. If grain be ſcarce, which generally happens after a ſevere winter, the peaſants have recourſe to a diſagreeable method of preſerving life, by boiling and drying the bark of fir-trees, mixing it

it with a little oatmeal, and making it into a kind of bread. Even in times of plenty they eat a little of it, that they may think it leſs diſagreeable in a time of ſcarcity.

The lakes and rivers furniſh the people with plenty of freſh water fiſh, and the mountains with game. For their winter ſtock they kill cows, ſheep, and goats; part of which they pickle and ſmoak, and ſome of it they cut in thin ſlices, ſprinkle it with ſalt, then dry it in the wind, and eat it like hung beef. They are fond of brandy, and of ſmoaking and chewing tobacco.

The Norwegians who live in towns, have nothing remarkable in their dreſs; but the peaſants do not trouble themſelves about faſhions. Thoſe called ſtrile-farmers have their breeches and ſtockings of one piece. They have a wide looſe jacket, made of coarſe woollen cloth, as are alſo their waiſtcoats; and thoſe who would appear fine, have the ſeams covered with cloth of a different colour. The peaſants of one pariſh are remarkable for wearing black cloaths edged with red; another for wearing all black. The dreſs of another pariſh is white edged with black. Others wear black and yellow. And thus the inhabitants of almoſt every pariſh vary in the colour of their cloaths. They wear a flapped hat, or a little

brown, grey, or black cap, made quite round, and the ſeams ornamented with black ribbons. They have ſhoes of a peculiar conſtruction without heels, conſiſting of two pieces; the upper leather fits cloſe to the foot, to which the ſole is joined by a great many plaits and folds. When they travel, and in the winter, they wear a ſort of half boots that reach up to the calf of the leg, and are laced on one ſide; and when they go on the rocks in the ſnow, they put on ſnow ſhoes. But as theſe are troubleſome when they have a great way to travel, they put on ſkaits about as broad as the foot, but ſix or eight feet long, and pointed before. They are covered underneath with ſeal-ſkin, ſo that the ſmooth grain of the hair turns backward to the heel. With theſe ſnow-ſkaits they ſlide about on the ſnow as well as they can upon the ice, and faſter than any horſe.

The peaſant never wears a neckcloth, or any thing of that kind, except when he is dreſſed; for his neck and breaſt are always open, and he lets the ſnow beat into his boſom. On the contrary, he covers his veins, binding a woollen fillet round his wriſts. About their body they wear a broad leathern belt, ornamented with convex braſs plates; to this hangs a braſs chain, which holds their large knife, gimblet, and other tackle.

The

The women at church, and in genteel aſſemblies, dreſs themſelves in jackets laced cloſe, and have leathern girdles, with ſilver ornaments about them. They alſo wear a ſilver chain three or four times round the neck, with a gilt medal hanging at the end of it. Their handkerchiefs and caps are almoſt covered with ſmall ſilver, braſs, and tin-plates, buttons, and large rings, ſuch as they wear on their fingers, to which they hang again a parcel of ſmall ones, which make a jingling noiſe when they move. A maiden-bride has her hair plaited, and hung as full as poſſible with ſuch kind of trinkets, as alſo her cloths. For this purpoſe they get all the ornaments they can.

The peaſants are generally buſied in cutting wood, felling and floating timber, burning charcoal, and extracting tar. Great numbers are employed in the mines, and at the furnaces and ſtamping mills; and alſo in navigation and fiſhing, beſides hunting and ſhooting; for every body is at liberty to purſue the game, eſpecially in the mountains, where every peaſant may make uſe of what arms he pleaſes.

BISHOP OF BERGEN.

SECT. XCIV.

OF THE HOUSES OF THE NORWEGIANS.

THEIR houſes are, in general, built of fir and pine-trees, the whole trunks of which are only chopped even to make them lie cloſe, and then laid one upon another, and faſtened with mortices at the corners. Theſe trunks are left round as they grew, both on the inſide and outſide of the houſe, and are frequently boarded over and painted, eſpecially in the trading towns, which gives them a genteel appearance.

In the country villages the houſes are built at a diſtance from each other, with their fields and grounds about them. The ſtore-houſe for the proviſions is generally at a diſtance from the dwelling-houſe, for fear of fire, and placed high upon poles, to keep the proviſions dry, and preſerve them from mice and all kinds of vermin. The kitchen ſtands alſo ſeparate, as do the barns, hay-loft, cow-houſes, ſtables, and the like. A farm has likewiſe commonly a mill belonging to it, ſituated by ſome rivulet, beſides a ſmith's forge; for every

every farmer, as hath been obſerved, is his own ſmith. Up the country, where timber for building is but of little value, there is many a farm-houſe as large as a nobleman's ſeat. It is frequently two ſtories high, and has a raiſed balcony in the front. The additional buildings reſemble a little village. The common farm-houſes have, however, only the ground-floor, and no other window but a ſquare hole in the wall, which is left open in ſummer; but in winter, or in wet weather, is filled up with a wooden frame, covered with the inward membrane of ſome animal. This is very ſtrong, and as tranſparent as a bladder. This hole, which is as high as it can be placed, alſo anſwers the purpoſe of a chimney, by ſerving to let out the ſmoke.

Under the light-hole generally ſtands a long thick table, with benches of the ſame wood, and at the upper end is the high ſeat which belongs to the maſter only. In towns theſe houſes are covered with tiles; but in the country, the people lay over the boards the ſappy bark of birch-trees, which will not decay in many years. They cover this again three or four inches thick with turf, on which good graſs always grows.

BISHOP OF BERGEN.

SECT. XCV.

OF THE ANIMALS OF NORWAY.

AMONG the animals, we ſhall begin with the horſes, which are better for riding than drawing. Their walk is eaſy, they are full of ſpirit, and are very ſure footed. When they mount or deſcend a ſteep cliff, on ſtones like ſteps, they firſt tread gently with one foot, to try if the ſtone they touch be faſt; and in this they muſt be left to themſelves, or the beſt rider will run the riſk of his neck. But when they are to go down a very ſteep and ſlippery place, they, in a ſurpriſing manner, draw their hind-legs together under them, and ſlide down. They ſhew a great deal of courage in fighting with the wolves and bears, which they are often obliged to do; for when the horſe perceives any of them near him, and has a mare or gelding with him, he places them behind him, attacks his antagoniſt by ſtriking at him with his fore-legs, and uſually comes off conqueror.

The Norway cows are generally of a yellow colour, as are alſo the horſes. They are ſmall, but

but their fleſh is fine grained, juicy, and well taſted.

The ſheep here are ſmall, and reſemble thoſe of Denmark. The goats, in many places, run wild winter and ſummer in the fields, till they are ten or twelve years old; and when the peaſant, who owns them, is to catch them, he muſt either do it by ſome ſnare or ſhoot them. They are ſo bold, that if a wolf approaches them, they ſtay to receive him, and if they have dogs with them, they will reſiſt a whole herd. They frequently attack the ſnakes, and when they are bit by them, not only kill their antagoniſts, but eat them; after which they are never known to die of the bite, though they are ill for ſeveral days. The owner warms their own milk, and waſhes the ſore with it.

Near Roſtad, is a flat and naked field, on which no vegetable will grow. The ſoil is almoſt white, with grey ſtripes, and has ſomewhat of ſo peculiarly poiſonous a nature, that though all other animals may ſafely paſs over it, a goat or a kid no ſooner ſets its foot upon it, than it drops down, ſtretches out its leg, its tongue hangs out of its mouth, and it expires if it has not inſtant help.

There are few hogs in Norway, and not many of the common deer; but the hares, which in the

cold ſeaſon change from brown or grey to a ſnow white, are very cheap in winter.

The hurtful beaſts are the bears and wolves, the lynx, vaſt numbers of white, red, and black foxes, and the glutton, a creature which few other countries know any otherwiſe than by report. This animal receives its name from its voracious appetite. In ſize and ſhape he has ſome reſemblance to a long-bodied dog, with thick legs, ſharp claws and teeth. His colour is black, variegated with brown and yellowiſh ſtreaks. He has the boldneſs to attack every beaſt he can poſſibly conquer; and if he finds a carcaſe ſix times as big as himſelf, he does not leave off eating as long as there is a mouthful left. When thus gorged, he preſſes and ſqueezes himſelf between two trees that ſtand near together, and thus empties himſelf of what he has not time to digeſt. As his ſkin ſhines like damaſk, and is covered with ſoft hair, it is very precious. It is therefore well worth the huntſman's while to kill him without wounding the ſkin, which is done by ſhooting him with a bow and blunt arrows.

The marten is alſo hunted on account of its ſkin, as are likewiſe the ſquirrel and the ermine, both of which are therefore ſhot with blunt arrows. I am in doubt whether the ermine be different

ferent in kind from the Daniſh weaſel. Its valuable ſkin is of a beautiful white, and it has a black ſpot on the tail. The ermines run after mice like cats, and drag away what they catch, particularly eggs, which are their niceſt delicacy.

As to the reptiles, there are neither land-ſnakes nor toads beyond the temperate zone; and even thoſe ſnakes on the extremities of the temperate climate, are leſs poiſonous than in more ſouthern countries. Lizards are here of various colours, as brown, green, and ſtriped. Thoſe that are green are found in the fields, and the others in the cracks and holes of rocks.

Among the fowls are moſt of thoſe ſeen in the reſt of Europe, and ſome that ſeem peculiar to this country; of which laſt, the moſt remarkable is the francolin, an excellent land bird, which ſerves the Norwegians inſtead of the pheaſant, its fleſh being white, firm, and of a delicious taſte.

In ſhort, there are here ſuch incredible numbers of ſea and land-fowls near the rocks on the ſea-ſhore, that they ſometimes obſcure the ſight of the heavens for many miles out at ſea; ſo that one would imagine all the fowls of the univerſe were gathered together in one flock.

BISHOP OF BERGEN.

SECT. XCVI.

OF LAPLAND.

WE took a journey from the town of Varanger into the country of Lapland, to try whether any trade could be carried on with the peaſants there. Setting out early in the morning, we took with us ſome cloth and tobacco to trade with, and ſalt beef and pork for our proviſions. We engaged three of the inhabitants of Varanger to attend us, both to ſhew us the way, and to help to carry our goods and proviſions to the next village. We followed them through woods, mountains, and valleys, without meeting any living creature, till about four o'clock in the afternoon, when we perceived two white bears of a prodigious ſize approach, as we thought, to devour us; but our guides obſerving the terror we were in, bid us not be afraid, but only to have our arms ready for defence, in caſe they approached too near us. Upon which we cocked and primed our pieces, and prepared our flints. But whether the bears were frightened at the fire which ſtruck from our flints, or ſmelt

our

our powder, they ſoon fled away ſo faſt, that they were preſently out of ſight.

As we were deſcending a mountain about an hour before night, we perceived at the foot of it a dozen houſes at a conſiderable diſtance from each other, and a little beyond them a herd of beaſts like ſtags, which our guides told us were rain-deer. On our arrival at the village, our guides conducted us to a hut, when being very weary, we were glad to reſt ourſelves; for we had made a long journey in a very bad way, with our luggage on our backs, which tired and encumbered us.

We preſented our hoſt with a piece of roll tobacco, and he received it with extraordinary joy, aſſuring us, he had not had ſo valuable a preſent in nine months before; and in return he brought out his brandy bottle, ſome rain-deer's fleſh dreſſed without ſalting, and ſome dried fiſh, which we gave to our guides, and ſupped ourſelves upon the proviſions we had brought with us. Having made a hearty meal we went to ſleep upon bear's ſkins, after the faſhion of the country.

In the morning we aſked our hoſt if he had nothing to barter with us for cloth and tobacco. To which he anſwered, that he had ſome ſkins of wolves, foxes, and white ſquirrels, and that his neighbours

neighbours had ſome of the ſame commodities, which they would gladly exchange with us. We bid him, by our interpreters, bring out his ſkins; and if he had any cloaths made of rain-deer ſkins, we told him we would deal with him for four ſuits, which we wanted to keep us warm. Accordingly he brought forth his merchandize, which we bought, and paid him part in tobacco, and part in cloth. We alſo trucked with his neighbours as long as they had any thing worth buying.

TRAVELS THROUGH LAPLAND.

SECT. XCVII.

THE MANNER OF TRAVELLING IN SLEDGES DRAWN BY RAIN-DEER.

BEING deſirous of continuing our journey, we begged our hoſt to lend us ſome rain-deer to carry us farther up the country, to which he readily conſented; and taking down a horn that hung up in his cottage, went out and blew it. Upon which fourteen or fifteen of thoſe animals came running

running towards the hut, ſix of which he immediately yoked to ſix ſledges. In one of them we put our merchandize and proviſions; another we aſſigned to one of our guides who underſtood the language of the Muſcovite Laplanders, and that of the Kilops, diſmiſſing the two other inhabitants of Varanger, after having firſt paid them in tobacco for their trouble. We then put on our Lapland cloaths, and each of us lying down in his ſledge, was covered with a bear's ſkin. At the back of the ſledge were two girths made of raindeer's ſkin leather, in which we thruſt our arms up to the ſhoulders to keep ourſelves ſteady; and we had each a ſtick with a ſtrong ferrel, in order to ſupport the ſledge, if it ſhould be in danger of overturning againſt the ſtumps of trees, or ſtones lying in the way.

We were no ſooner ready to ſet out, than our hoſt muttered ſome words in the ear of the raindeer; and when I afterwads enquired of our guide what he meant by it, he gravely replied with the utmoſt ſimplicity, that it was to tell them whither they ſhould carry us. Cuſtom, however, had made this muttering ſo familiar to them, that when our hoſt had gone to all the ſix, they ſet off with amazing ſwiftneſs, and continued their pace over hills and dales without keeping any beaten path, till

till ſeven o'clock in the evening; when they brought us to a large village ſituated between two mountains, on the borders of a great lake. Stopping at the fourth houſe in the place, and beating the ground with their feet, the maſter of the houſe came with ſome of his ſervants to take us out of the ſledges, and unharneſs our cattle, one of them bringing out a little juniper can filled with brandy, of which he gave each of us a brimmer out of a larger veſſel that was alſo made of juniper wood. This it ſeems was to revive our ſpirits, our guide having informed him, that we were frightened at our being drawn ſo ſwiftly by theſe animals, having never been uſed to that way of travelling.

The rain-deer is of the colour of the ſtag, and is not much bigger. The horns of this animal are ſomewhat higher than thoſe of the ſtag, but more crooked, hairy, and not ſo well furniſhed with branches. Of the milk of the females they make good butter and cheeſe. Theſe animals, indeed, conſtitute the greateſt, and almoſt the only riches of the Finlaplanders. In Finmark, there are vaſt numbers of them both wild and tame, and many a man there has from ſix or eight hundred to a thouſand of theſe uſeful creatures which never come under cover. They follow him wherever he is

pleaſed

pleaſed to ramble, and, when they are put to a ſledge, tranſport his goods from one place to another. They provide for themſelves, and live chiefly on moſs, and on the buds and leaves of trees. They ſupport themſelves on very little nouriſhment, and are neat, clean, and entertaining creatures.

It is remarkable, that when the rain-deer ſheds his horns, and others riſe in their ſtead, they appear at firſt covered with a ſkin; and till they are of a finger's length, are ſo ſoft, that they may be cut with a knife like a ſauſage, and are delicate eating even raw; therefore the huntſmen, when far out in the country, and pinched for want of food, eat them, and find that they ſatisfy both their hunger and thirſt. When the horn grows bigger, there breeds within the ſkin a worm which eats away the root.

The rain-deer has over his eye-lids a kind of ſkin, through which he peeps, when otherwiſe, in the hard ſnows, he would be obliged to ſhut his eyes entirely; a ſingular inſtance of the benevolence of the great Creator, in providing for the wants of each creature, according to its deſtined manner of living.

When we got out of our ſledges, our hoſt conducted us into his hut, which, like the reſt of the cottages

cottages in the place, was very little, low, and covered with the bark of trees, the light entering in at a hole at the top. The people here were clothed much like thoſe of Varanger, their apparel being of the ſame materials and make, but longer. The women were alſo dreſſed in rain-deer ſkins, with the hair outwards.

We gave our hoſt a piece of our roll tobacco, about two inches long, with which he was highly pleaſed, and in the moſt hearty manner returned us his thanks. We alſo gave a piece, not quite ſo long, to each of the inhabitants of the place to make them our friends, and the better to ſecure ourſelves againſt their attempts; for they ſeemed more uncivilized than thoſe we laſt dealt with. We again ſupped on the proviſions we had brought with us, and our guide ate ſome of our hoſt's ſalt fiſh and freſh rain-deer veniſon. The inhabitants talked a language very different from that uſed at Varanger; but our guide had been often in the country and underſtood them.

TRAVELS THROUGH LAPLAND.

SECT. XCVIII.

THE CEREMONIES OF A LAPLAND FUNERAL.

OUR landlord aſked us whether we would accompany him to the funeral of one of his neighbours who had been dead about four hours. We were glad of this opportunity of ſeeing their funeral ceremonies, and therefore went with him to the houſe of the deceaſed; when we ſaw the corpſe taken from the bears-ſkins on which it lay, and removed into a wooden coffin, by ſix of his moſt intimate friends, the body being firſt wrapped in linen, and the face and hands only left bare. In one hand they put a purſe with money in it, to pay the fee of the porter of the gate of Paradiſe, and in the other a certificate ſigned by a prieſt, directed to St. Peter, to certify that he was a good Chriſtian, and ought to be admitted into heaven. At the head of the coffin was placed a picture of St. Nicholas, who was one of the ſeven deacons mentioned in the Acts of the Apoſtles, a Saint greatly reverenced in all parts of Muſcovy, where he is ſuppoſed to be a particular friend of the dead.

dead. On which account his picture is always fixed near a corpſe, inſtead of a crucifix. He is repreſented in a pilgrim's habit, with a long robe, a broad girdle about his waiſt, and a ſtaff in his hand.

They alſo put into the coffin a rundlet of brandy, ſome dried fiſh and rain-deer veniſon, to ſupport the deceaſed on his journey. They then lighted ſome fir-tree roots, piled up at a convenient diſtance from the coffin, wept, howled, and made a variety of ſtrange geſtures, aſſuming a thouſand different attitudes to ſhew the extravagance of their ſorrow.

When this noiſe and theſe geſticulations were over, they marched round the corpſe ſeveral times in proceſſion, aſking the deceaſed why he died? Whether he was angry with his wife? Whether he ſtood in need of meat, drink, or cloaths? Whether he had not ſucceeded when fiſhing, or had loſt his game when hunting? They then reſumed their howling, and ſtamped with all the ſigns of diſtraction.

One of the prieſts who aſſiſted at the ſolemnity frequently ſprinkled holy water upon the corpſe, as did alſo the mourners.

Being now almoſt deafened with noiſe, and wearied with looking on theſe barbarous rites, we left

left our landlord behind us, and returned to his cottage, where we found his wife at home. She had made a ſally from the place in which her huſband had confined her on our arrival, and no ſooner ſaw us, than ſuppoſing he was in our company, would have retired to her corner; but our interpreter letting her know that the good man was at the funeral, and would not return for ſome time, ſhe ſtaid and viewed us all round, one after another, drew her ſeat near us, and ſhewed us a bonnet of her own embroidering, very curiouſly performed with tinſel thread. The wives of the Muſcovite Laplanders make cloaths for themſelves, their huſbands, and their children, and at the edges they are all embroidered with that thread. She was handſome, well ſhaped, and appeared to be good humoured, and well pleaſed with us.

While our hoſt was buſied about the funeral, we pulled out ſome of our proviſions, and gave our landlady ſome of every ſort to taſte. She liked them all, eſpecially the gingerbread; but having drank two or three glaſſes of brandy, withdrew to her place of confinement, for fear of her huſband's return. Had he found her among us it would have raiſed his jealouſy.

When he came home, he obliged us to take a cup

cup or two more, to ſmoke a pipe, and to ſup with him; for he brought ſuch proviſions as he thought would be moſt grateful to our palates, particularly ſalt butter which we eat with bread; and as our guide would not taſte any thing that was ſalt, he got him ſome dried fiſh, and ſome bear's fleſh, which he broiled on the coals.

All the cottages in this village were, like thoſe we had obſerved in other places, built of wood and covered with turf, but they were handſomer than any we had yet ſeen, being both within and without adorned with fiſh bones, curiouſly inlaid.

TRAVELS THROUGH LAPLAND.

SECT. XCIX.

OF THE INTENSE COLD EXPERIENCED BY SOME GENTLEMEN, SENT BY THE KING OF FRANCE, TO DETERMINE THE FIGURE OF THE EARTH AT THE POLAR CIRCLE.

IN order to aſcertain the diſtance between the two ſignals we had erected laſt ſummer, we were under

under the neceſſity of being upon the ice of a river in Lapland, at the diſtance of above three leagues, in a country where the cold was growing every day more intenſe. On the twenty-firſt of December this work was begun. In this ſeaſon the ſun but juſt ſhewed itſelf above the horizon towards noon; but the long twilights, the whiteneſs ofthe ſnow, and the meteors continually blazing in the ſky, furniſhed us light enough to work four or five hours every day.

We lodged at the houſe of the Curate of Oſwer-Tornea, and at eleven in the forenoon began our ſurvey, attended by ſo great an equipage, that the Laplanders, drawn by the novelty of the ſight, came down from the neighbouring mountains. We ſeparated into two bands, each of which carried four rods of fir, each thirty feet long. I ſhall ſay nothing of the fatigues and dangers of this operation. Judge what it muſt be to walk in ſnow two feet deep, with heavy poles in our hands, which we were obliged to be continually laying on the ſnow, and lifting again, —— in a cold ſo extreme, that whenever we would taſte a little brandy, the only thing that could be kept liquid, our tongues and lips froze to the cup, and came away bloody; —— in a cold that congealed the fingers of ſome of us, and threatened us with

ſtill

ſtill more diſmal accidents. While the extremities of our bodies were thus freezing, the reſt, through exceſſive toil, was bathed in ſweat. Brandy did not quench our thirſt; we muſt have recourſe to deep wells dug through the ice, which were ſhut almoſt as ſoon as opened, and from which the water could ſcarcely be conveyed unfrozen to our lips. Thus were we forced to run the hazard of the dangerous contraſt which ice-water might produce in our heated bodies.

Our work however advanced apace; for ſix days labour brought it to within about five hundred toiſes, where we had not been able to plant our ſtakes ſoon enough. Three of the gentlemen therefore undertook this office, while the Abbé Outhier and I went upon a pretty extraordinary adventure.

We had laſt ſummer omitted an obſervation of ſmall moment. This was taking the height of an object that we made uſe of in meaſuring the top of Avaſaxa; and to perform this, I undertook to go with a quadrant to the top of the mountain, ſo ſcrupulouſly careful were we that nothing ſhould be wanting to the perfection of the work. Imagine a very high mountain, full of rocks, that lie hid in a prodigious quantity of ſnow, as well as their cavities, wherein you may ſink into a cruſt

of

of ſnow as into an abyſs, and the undertaking will ſcarce appear poſſible. Yet there are two ways of performing it; one by walking, or rather ſliding along upon two ſtrait boards, eight feet in length, which the Finlanders and Laplanders uſe to keep them from ſinking into the ſnow. But this way of walking requires long practice. The other is by truſting yourſelf to a rein-deer uſed to ſuch journeys.

The firſt part of our journey was performed in a moment; for our flight over the plain beaten road from the curate's houſe to the foot of the mountain, can be compared only to that of birds. And though the mountain, where there was no track, greatly abated the ſpeed of our rein-deer, they got at length to the top of it, were we immediately made the obſervation for which we came. In the mean while our rein-deer had dug deep holes in the ſnow, where they browzed on the moſs that covers the rocks; and the Laplanders had lighted a great fire, and we preſently joined them to warm ourſelves. The cold was ſo extreme, that the heat of the fire could reach only to a very ſmall diſtance. As the ſnow juſt by it melted, it was immediately froze again, forming a hearth of ice all round.

Our journey up hill had been painful; but now

our concern was leſt our return ſhould be too rapid. We were to proceed down the ſteep in conveyances, which, though partly ſunk in the ſnow, ſlid on notwithſtanding, drawn by animals, whoſe fury in the plain we had already tried, and who, though ſinking to their bellies in the ſnow, would endeavour to free themſelves by the ſwiftneſs of their flight. We very ſoon found ourſelves at the bottom of the hill. The next day we finiſhed our ſurvey, and made all poſſible haſte back to Tornea, to ſecure ourſelves in the beſt manner we were able from the increaſing ſeverity of the ſeaſon.

The town of Tornea, at our arrival on the 30th of December, had really a moſt frightful aſpect. Its little houſes were buried to the tops in ſnow, which, had there been any day-light, muſt have effectually ſhut it out. But the ſnow continually falling, or ready to fall, for the moſt part hid the ſun the few moments he might have appeared at mid-day.

In the month of January the cold was increaſed to that extremity, that Mr. Reaumur's mercurial thermometers, which at Paris, in the great froſt of 1709, it was thought ſtrange to ſee fall to 14 degrees below the freezing point, were now got down to 37. The ſpirit of wine in the others was frozen. If we opened the door of a warm room, the

the external air inſtantly converted all the vapour in it into ſnow, whirling it round in white vortexes. If we went abroad, we felt as if the air was tearing our breaſts in pieces; and the cracking of the wood, of which the houſes are built, as it ſplit by the violence of the froſt, continually alarmed us with an increaſe of cold. The ſolitude of the ſtreets was as great as if the people had been all dead. In this country you may often ſee people who have loſt an arm or a leg by the froſt. The cold, which is always very great, ſometimes increaſes by ſuch violent and ſudden fits, as are almoſt infallibly fatal to thoſe who are ſo unhappy as to be expoſed to it; and ſometimes there riſe ſudden tempeſts of ſnow, which are ſtill more dangerous.

The winds ſeem to blow from all quarters at once, and drive about the ſnow with ſuch fury, that all the roads are in a moment rendered inviſible. Dreadful is the ſituation of a perſon ſurpriſed in the fields by ſuch a ſtorm. His knowledge of the country, and even the mark he may have taken by the trees, cannot avail him. He is blinded by the ſnow; and if he attempts to find his way home, is generally loſt.

In ſhort, during the whole winter the cold was ſo exceſſive, that on the 7th of April, at five in the

morning, the thermometer was fallen to twenty diviſions below the point of freezing, though every afternoon it roſe two or three diviſions above it; a difference in the height not much leſs than that which the greateſt heat and cold felt at Paris uſually produce in that inſtrument. Thus, in the ſpace of twenty-four hours, we had all the variety felt in the temperate zones in the compaſs of a whole year.

MAUPERTUIS.

SECT. C.

OF THE BEAUTY OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN LAPLAND.

THOUGH in this climate the earth is horrible, the heavens preſent the moſt beautiful proſpects. The ſhort days are no ſooner cloſed, than fires of a thouſand colours and figures light up the ſky, as if deſigned to compenſate for the abſence of the ſun in this ſeaſon. Theſe fires have not here, as in the more ſoutherly climates, any conſtant

ſtant ſituation. Though a luminous arch is often ſeen fixed towards the north, they ſeem more frequently to poſſeſs the whole extent of the hemiſphere. Sometimes they begin in the form of a great ſcarf of bright light, with its extremities upon the horizon, which, with a motion reſembling that of a fiſhing-net, glides ſwiftly up the ſky, preſerving in this motion a direction nearly perpendicular to the meridian; and moſt commonly after thoſe preludes, all the lights unite at the zenith, and form the top of a kind of crown. Arcs like thoſe ſeen in France towards the north, are here frequently ſituated towards the ſouth, and often towards both the north and ſouth at once. Their ſummits approach each other, and the diſtance of their extremities widens towards the horizon. I have ſeen ſome of the oppoſite arcs, whoſe ſummits almoſt join at the zenith; and both the one and the other have frequently ſeveral concentric arcs beyond it. Their tops are all placed in the direction of the meridian, though with a little declination to the weſt, which I did not find to be conſtant, and which is ſometimes inſenſible.

It would be endleſs to mention all the different figures theſe meteors aſſume, and the various motions with which they are agitated. Their motion is moſt commonly like that of a pair of colours

waved in the air, and the different tints of their light gives them the appearance of ſo many vaſt ſtreamers of changeable taffeta. Sometimes they line a part of the ſky with ſcarlet.

On the 18th of December, I ſaw a phænomenon of this kind, that in the midſt of all the wonders to which I was now every day accuſtomed, raiſed my admiration. To the ſouth a great ſpace of the ſky appeared tinged with ſo lively a red, that the whole conſtellation of Orion looked as if it had been dipped in blood. This light, which was at firſt fixed, ſoon moved, and changing into other colours, violet and blue, ſettled into a dome, whoſe top ſtood a little to the ſouth-weſt of the zenith. The moon ſhone bright, but did not in the leaſt efface it.

In this country, where there are lights of ſo many different colours, I never ſaw but two that were red; and ſuch are taken for preſages of ſome great misfortune. After all, when people gaze at theſe phænomena with an unphiloſophic eye, it is not ſurpriſing if they diſcover in them armies engaged, fiery chariots, and a thouſand other prodigies.

During the winter we repeated many of our obſervations and calculations, and found the moſt evident proofs of the earth's being flatted at the poles.

poles. Mean time the ſun came nearer, or rather no more quitted us. It was now May, when it was curious enough to ſee that great luminary enlighten for ſo long a time a whole horizon of ice, and to ſee ſummer in the heavens, while winter ſtill kept poſſeſſion of the earth. We were in the the morning of that long day of ſeveral months; yet the ſun, with all his power, wrought no change either upon the ice or ſnows.

On the 6th of May it began to rain, and ſome water appeared on the ice of the river. At noon a little ſnow melted, but in the evening winter reſumed his rights. At length, on the 10th, the earth which had been ſo long hid, began to appear; ſome high points that were expoſed to the ſun ſhewed themſelves, as the tops of the mountains did after the deluge, and all the fowls of the country returned. At the beginning of June, winter yielding up the earth and ſea, we prepared for our departure back to Stockholm, and on the 9th, ſome of us ſet out by land, and others by ſea.

MAUPERTUIS.

SECT. CI.

OF ST. ANDREWS IN SCOTLAND.

I HAD deſired to viſit the Hebrides, or Weſtern Iſlands of Scotland ſo long, that I ſcarcely remember how the wiſh was originally excited; and was in the Autumn of the year 1773 induced to undertake the journey, by finding in Mr. Boſwell a companion, whoſe acuteneſs would help my enquiry, and whoſe gaiety of converſation and civility of manners are ſufficient to counteract the inconveniencies of travel, in countries leſs hoſpitable than we have paſſed.

On the 18th of Auguſt we left Edinburgh, a city too well known to admit deſcription, and directed our courſe northward, along the eaſtern coaſt of Scotland, accompanied the firſt day by another gentleman, who could ſtay with us only long enough to ſhew us how much we loſt at ſeparation.

As we croſſed the Frith of Forth, our curioſity was attracted by *Inch Keith*, a ſmall iſland, which neither of my companions had ever viſited, though, lying

lying within their view, it had all their lives ſolicited their notice. Here, by climbing with ſome difficulty over ſhattered crags, we made the firſt experiment of unfrequented coaſts. Inch Keith is nothing more than a rock covered with a thin layer of earth, not wholly bare of graſs, and very fertile of thiſtles. A ſmall herd of cows grazes annually upon it in the ſummer. It ſeems never to have afforded to man or beaſt a permanent habitation.

We left this little iſland with our thoughts employed a while on the different appearance that it would have made if it had been placed at the ſame diſtance from London, with the ſame facility of approach; with what emulation of price a few rocky acres would have been purchaſed, and with what expenſive induſtry they would have been cultivated and adorned.

When we landed, we found our chaiſe ready, and paſſed through *Kinghorn*, *Kirkaldy*, and *Cowpar*, places not unlike the ſmall trading market-towns in thoſe parts of England where commerce and manufactures have not yet produced opulence.

Though we were yet in the moſt populous part of Scotland, and at ſo ſmall a diſtance from the capital, we met few paſſengers.

The roads are neither rough nor dirty; and it

affords a ſouthern ſtranger a new kind of pleaſure to travel ſo commodiouſly without the interruption of toll-gates.

At an hour ſomewhat late, we came to St. Andrews, a city once archiepiſcopal; where that univerſity ſtill ſubſiſts in which philoſophy was formerly taught by Buchanan, whoſe name has as fair a claim to immortality as can be conferred by modern latinity, and perhaps a fairer than the inſtability of vernacular languages admits.

We found, that by the interpoſition of ſome inviſible friend, lodgings had been provided for us at the houſe of one of the profeſſors, whoſe eaſy civility quickly made us forget that we were ſtrangers; and in the whole time of our ſtay we were gratified by every mode of kindneſs, and entertained with all the elegance of lettered hoſpitality.

In the morning we aroſe to perambulate a city, which only hiſtory ſhews to have once flouriſhed, and ſurveyed the ruins of ancient magnificence, of which even the ruins cannot long be viſible, unleſs ſome care be taken to preſerve them; and where is the pleaſure of preſerving ſuch mournful memorials? They have been, till very lately, ſo much neglected, that every man carried away the ſtones who fancied that he wanted them.

The

The cathedral, of which the foundation may be ſtill traced, and a ſmall part of the wall is ſtanding, appears to have been a ſpacious and majeſtic building, and not unſuitable to the primacy of the kingdom. Of the architecture, the poor remains can hardly exhibit, even to an artiſt, a ſufficient ſpecimen. It was demoliſhed, as is well known, in the tumult and violence of Knox's reformation.

Not far from the cathedral, on the margin of the water, ſtands a fragment of the caſtle, in which the archbiſhop anciently reſided. It was never very large, and was built with more attention to ſecurity than pleaſure. Cardinal Beatoun is ſaid to have had workmen employed in improving its fortifications, at the time when he was murdered by the ruffians of reformation, in the manner of which Knox has given what he himſelf calls a merry narrative.

The change of religion in Scotland, eager and vehement as it was, raiſed an epidemical enthuſiaſm, compounded of ſullen ſcrupulouſneſs and warlike ferocity, which, in a people whom idleneſs reſigned to their own thoughts, and who converſing only with each other, ſuffered no dilution of their zeal from the gradual influx of new opinions, was long tranſmitted in its full ſtrength from the old to the young, but by trade and intercourſe with

England, is now viſibly abating, and giving way too faſt to their laxity of practice and indifference of opinion, in which men, not ſufficiently inſtructed to find the middle point, too eaſily ſhelter themſelves from rigour and conſtraint.

The city of St. Andrews, when it had loſt its archiepiſcopal pre-eminence, gradually decayed. One of its ſtreets is now loſt; and in thoſe that remain, there is the ſilence and ſolitude of inactive indigence and gloomy depopulation.

The univerſity, within a few years, conſiſted of three colleges, but is now reduced to two; the college of St. Leonard being lately diſſolved by the ſale of its buildings and the appropriation of its revenues to the profeſſors of the two others. The chapel of the alienated college is yet ſtanding, a fabric not inelegant of external ſtructure; but I was always, by ſome civil excuſe, hindered from entering it. A decent attempt, as I was ſince told, has been made to convert it into a kind of green-houſe, by planting its area with ſhrubs. This new method of gardening is unſucceſsful; the plants do not hitherto proſper. To what uſe it will next be put, I have no pleaſure in conjecturing. It is ſomething that its preſent ſtate is at leaſt not oſtentatiouſly diſplayed. Where there is yet ſhame, there may in time be virtue.

The

The diſſolution of St. Leonard's College was doubtleſs neceſſary; but of that neceſſity there is reaſon to complain. It is ſurely not without juſt reproach, that a nation, of which the commerce is hourly extending, and the wealth increaſing, denies any participation of its proſperity to its literary ſocieties; and while its merchants or its nobles are raiſing palaces, ſuffers its univerſities to moulder into duſt.

Of the two colleges yet ſtanding, one is by the inſtitution of its founder appropriated to divinity. It is ſaid to be capable of containing fifty ſtudents; but more than one muſt occupy a chamber. The library, which is of late erection, is not very ſpacious, but elegant and luminous.

The Doctor, by whom it was ſhewn, hoped to irritate or ſubdue my Engliſh vanity, by telling me, that we had no ſuch repoſitory of books in England.

St. Andrews ſeems to be a place eminently adapted to ſtudy and education, being ſituated in a populous, yet a cheap country, and expoſing the minds and manners of young men neither to the levity and diſſoluteneſs of a capital city, nor to the groſs luxury of a town of commerce, places naturally unpropitious to learning. In one the deſire of knowledge eaſily gives way to the love of pleaſure,

ſure, and in the other, is in danger of yielding to the love of money.

The ſtudents however are repreſented as at this time not exceeding a hundred. Perhaps it may be ſome obſtruction to their increaſe, that there is no Epiſcopal chapel in the place. I ſaw no reaſon for imputing their paucity to the preſent profeſſors; nor can the expence of an academical education be very reaſonably objected. A ſtudent of the higheſt claſs may keep his annual ſeſſion, or as the Engliſh call it, his term, which laſts ſeven months, for about fifteen pounds, and one of lower rank for leſs than ten; in which, board, lodging, and inſtruction are all included.

The chief magiſtrate reſident in the univerſity, anſwering to our vice-chancellor, and to the *rector magnificus* on the continent, had commonly the title of Lord Rector; but being addreſſed only as *Mr. Rector* in an inauguratory ſpeech by the preſent chancellor, he has fallen from his former dignity of ſtyle. Lordſhip was very liberally annexed by our anceſtors to any ſtation or character of dignity. They ſaid, the *Lord General*, and *Lord Ambaſſador*; ſo we ſtill ſay, *my Lord*, to the judge upon the circuit, and yet retain in our Liturgy *the Lords of the Council.*

In walking among the ruins of religious buildings,

ings, we came to two vaults, over which had formerly ſtood the houſe of the ſub-prior. One of the vaults was inhabited by an old woman, who claimed the right of abode there, and the widow of a man whoſe anceſtors had poſſeſſed the ſame gloomy manſion for no leſs than four generations. The right, however it began, was conſidered as eſtabliſhed by legal preſcription, and the old woman lives undiſturbed. She thinks however that ſhe has a claim to ſomething more than ſufferance; for as her huſband's name was Bruce, ſhe is allied to royalty, and told Mr. Boſwell, that when there were perſons of quality in the place, ſhe was diſtinguiſhed by ſome notice; that indeed ſhe is now neglected, but ſhe ſpins a thread, has the company of her cat, and is troubleſome to nobody.

Having now ſeen whatever this ancient city offered to our curioſity, we left it with good wiſhes, having reaſon to be highly pleaſed with the attention that was paid us. But whoever ſurveys the world muſt ſee many things that gave him pain. The kindneſs of the profeſſors did not contribute to abate the uneaſy remembrance of an univerſity declining, a college alienated, and a church profaned and haſtening to the ground.

St. Andrews indeed has formerly ſuffered more atrocious

atrocious ravages and more extenſive deſtruction, but recent evils affect with greater force. We were reconciled to the ſight of archiepiſcopal ruins. The diſtance of a calamity from the preſent time ſeems to preclude the mind from contact or ſympathy. Events long paſt are barely known; they are not conſidered. We read with as little emotion the violence of Knox and his followers, as the irruptions of Alaric and the Goths. Had the univerſity been deſtroyed two centuries ago, we ſhould not have regretted it; but to ſee it pining in decay and ſtruggling for life, fills the mind with mournful images and ineffectual wiſhes.

DR. JOHNSON.

SECT. CII.

OF INVERNESS.

INVERNESS may properly be called the capital of the Highlands. Hither the inhabitants of the inland parts come to be ſupplied with what they cannot make for themſelves. Hither the young nymphs of the mountains and valleys are ſent

ſent for education, and as far as my obſervation has reached are not ſent in vain.

Inverneſs was the laſt place which had a regular communication by high roads with the ſouthern counties. All the ways beyond it have, I believe, been made by the ſoldiers in this century. At Inverneſs therefore Cromwell, when he ſubdued Scotland, ſtationed a garriſon, as at the boundary of the Highlands. The ſoldiers ſeem to have incorporated afterwards with the inhabitants, and to have peopled the place with an Engliſh race; for the language of this town has been long conſidered as particularly elegant.

Here is a caſtle, called the caſtle of Macbeth, the walls of which are yet ſtanding. It was no very capacious edifice, but ſtands upon a rock ſo high and ſteep, that I think it was once not acceſſible, but by the help of ladders or a bridge. Oppoſite to it, on another hill, was a fort built by Cromwell, now totally demoliſhed; for no faction of Scotland loved the name of Cromwell, or had any deſire to continue his memory.

Yet what the Romans did to other nations, was in a great degree done by Cromwell to the Scots. He civilized them by conqueſt, and introduced by uſeful violence the arts of peace. I was told at

Aberdeen,

Aberdeen, that the people learned from Cromwell's ſoldiers to make ſhoes and to plant kail.

How they lived without kail, it is not eaſy to gueſs. They cultivate hardly any other plant for common tables, and when they had not kail, they probably had nothing. The numbers that go barefoot are ſtill ſufficient to ſhew that ſhoes may be ſpared. They are not yet conſidered as neceſſaries of life; for tall boys, not otherwiſe meanly dreſſed, run without them in the ſtreets and in the iſlands. The ſons of gentlemen paſs ſeveral of the firſt years with naked feet.

I know not whether it be not peculiar to the Scots to have attained the liberal, without the manual arts; to have excelled in ornamental knowledge, and to have wanted not only the elegancies, but the conveniencies of common life. Literature ſoon after its revival found its way to Scotland, and from the middle of the ſixteenth century, almoſt to the middle of the ſeventeenth, the politer ſtudies were very diligently purſued. The Latin poetry of *Deliciæ Poëtarum Scotorum* would have done honour to any nation; at leaſt till the publication of *May's Supplement* the Engliſh had very little to oppoſe.

Yet men thus ingenious and inquiſitive were content to live in total ignorance of the trade by which

which human wants are ſupplied, and to ſupply them by the groſſeſt means. Till the Union made them acquainted with Engliſh manners, the culture of their lands was unſkilful, and their domeſtic life unformed.

Since they have known that their condition was capable of improvement, their progreſs in uſeful knowledge has been rapid and uniform. What remains to be done they will quickly do, and then wonder, like me, why that which was ſo neceſſary and ſo eaſy was ſo long delayed. But they muſt be for ever content to owe to the Engliſh that elegance and culture, which, if they had been vigilant and active, perhaps the Engliſh might have owed to them.

Here the appearance of life began to alter. I had ſeen a few women with plaids at Aberdeen; but at Inverneſs the Highland manners are common. There is I think a kirk, in which only the erſe language is uſed. There is likewiſe an Engliſh chapel, but meanly built, where on Sunday we ſaw a very decent congregation.

We were now to bid farewel to the luxury of travelling, and to enter a country upon which perhaps no wheel has ever rolled. We could indeed have uſed our poſt-chaiſe one day longer, along the military road to Fort Auguſtus, but we could

could have hired no horſes beyond Inverneſs, and we were not ſo ſparing of ourſelves as to lead them; merely that we might have one day longer the indulgence of a carriage. At Inverneſs therefore we procured three horſes for ourſelves and a ſervant, and one more for our baggage, which was no very heavy load. We found in the courſe of our journey the convenience of having diſencumbered ourſelves, by laying aſide whatever we could ſpare; for it is not to be imagined without experience, how in climbing crags, and treading bogs, and winding through narrow and obſtructed paſſages, a little bulk will hinder, and a little weight will burden; or how often a man that has pleaſed himſelf at home with his own reſolution, will, in in the hour of darkneſs and fatigue, be content to leave behind him every thing but himſelf.

We took two Highlanders to run beſide us, partly to ſhew us the way, and partly to take back from the ſea-ſide the horſes, of which they were the owners. One of them was a man of great livelineſs and activity, of whom his companion ſaid, that he would tire any horſe in Inverneſs. Both of them were civil and ready-handed. Civility ſeems part of the national character of the Highlanders. Every chieftain is a monarch, and politeneſs, the natural product of royal government,

ment, is diffuſed from the laird through the whole clan. But they are not commonly dextrous. Their narrowneſs of life confines them to a few operations, and they are accuſtomed to endure little wants more than to remove them.

We mounted our ſteeds on the thirteenth of Auguſt, and directed our guides to conduct us to Fort Auguſtus. It is built at the head of Lough Neſs, of which Inverneſs ſtands at the outlet. The way between them has been cut by the ſoldiers, and the greater part of it runs along a rock, levelled with great labour and exactneſs near the water-ſide.

Moſt of this day's journey was very pleaſant. The day, though bright, was not hot; and the appearance of the country, if I had not ſeen the Peak, would have been wholly new. We went upon a ſurface ſo hard and level, that we had little care to hold the bridle, and were therefore at full leiſure for contemplation. On the left were high and ſteep rocks ſhaded with birch, the hardy native of the North, and covered with fern or heath. On the right the limpid waters of Lough Neſs were beating their bank, and waving their ſurface by a gentle agitation. Beyond them were rocks ſometimes covered with verdure, and ſometimes towering in horrid nakedneſs. Now and then

then we eſpied a little corn-field, which ſerved to impreſs more ſtrongly the general barrenneſs.

Lough Neſs is about twenty-four miles long, and from one to two miles broad. It is remarkable that Boethius, in his deſcription of Scotland, gives it twelve miles of breadth. When hiſtorians or geographers exhibit falſe accounts of places far diſtant, they may be forgiven, becauſe they can tell but what they are told; and that their accounts exceed the truth may be juſtly ſuppoſed, becauſe moſt men exaggerate to others, if not to themſelves. But Boethius lived at no great diſtance. If he never ſaw the lake he muſt have been very incurious, and if he had ſeen it, his veracity yielded to very ſlight temptations.

Lough Neſs, though not twelve miles broad, is a very remarkable diffuſion of water without iſlands. It fills a large hollow between two ridges of high rocks, being ſupplied partly by the torrents which fall into it on either ſide, and partly, as is ſuppoſed, by ſprings at the bottom. Its water is remarkably clear and pleaſant, and is imagined by the natives to be medicinal. We were told, that it is in ſome places one hundred and forty fathoms deep, a profundity ſcarcely credible, and which probably thoſe that relate it have never ſounded. Its fiſh are ſalmon, trout, and pike.

It

It was ſaid at Fort Auguſtus, that Lough Neſs is open in the hardeſt winters, though a lake not far from it is covered with ice. In diſcuſſing theſe exceptions from the courſe of nature, the firſt queſtion is, whether the fact be juſtly ſtated. That which is ſtrange is delightful, and a pleaſing error is not willingly detected. Accuracy of narration is not very common, and there are few ſo rigidly philoſophical as not to repreſent as perpetual what is only frequent, or as conſtant, what is really caſual. If it be true that Lough Neſs never freezes, it is either ſheltered by its high banks from the cold blaſts, and expoſed only to thoſe winds which have more power to agitate than congeal; or it is kept in perpetual motion by the ruſh of ſtreams from the rocks that incloſe it. Its profundity though it ſhould be ſuch as is repreſented can have little part in this exemption; for though deep wells are not frozen, becauſe their waters are excluded from the external air, yet where a wide ſurface is expoſed to the full influence of a freezing atmoſphere, I know not why the depth ſhould keep it open. Natural philoſophy is now one of the favourite ſtudies of the Scottiſh nation, and Lough Neſs well deſerves to be diligently examined.

The road on which we travelled, and which was

was itſelf a ſource of entertainment, is made along the rock, in the direction of the lough, ſometimes by breaking off protuberances, and ſometimes by cutting the great maſs of ſtone to a conſiderable depth. The fragments are piled in a looſe wall on either ſide, with apertures left at very ſhort ſpaces, to give a paſſage to the wintry currents. Part of it is bordered with low trees, from which our guides gathered nuts, and would have had the appearance of an Engliſh lane, except that an Engliſh lane is almoſt always dirty. It has been made with great labour, but has this advantage, that it cannot, without equal labour, be broken up.

Within our ſight there were goats feeding or playing. The mountains have red deer, but they came not within view; and if what is ſaid of their vigilance and ſubtlety be true, they have ſome claim to that palm of wiſdom, which the eaſtern philoſopher, whom Alexander interrogated, gave to thoſe beaſts which live fartheſt from men.

DR. JOHNSON.

SECT. CIII.

DESCRIPTION OF A HIGHLAND COTTAGE.

NEAR the way, by the water ſide, we eſpied a cottage. This was the firſt Highland Hut that I had ſeen; and as our buſineſs was with life and manners, we were willing to viſit it. To enter a habitation without leave, ſeems not to be conſidered here as rudeneſs or intruſion. The old laws of hoſpitality ſtill give this licence to a ſtranger.

A hut is conſtructed with looſe ſtones, ranged for the moſt part with ſome tendency to circularity. It muſt be placed where the wind cannot act upon it with violence, becauſe it has no cement; and where the water will run eaſily away, becauſe it has no floor but the naked ground. The wall, which is commonly about ſix feet high, declines from the perpendicular a little inward. Such rafters as can be procured are then raiſed for a roof, and covered with heath, which makes a ſtrong and warm thatch, kept from flying off by ropes of twiſted heath, of which the ends, reaching from the centre of the thatch to the top of the wall, are held firm by the weight of a large ſtone. No

light is admitted but at the entrance, and through a hole in the thatch, which gives vent to the ſmoke. This hole is not directly over the fire, leſt the rain ſhould extinguiſh it; and the ſmoke therefore naturally fills the place before it eſcapes. Such is the general ſtructure of the houſes in which one of the nations of this opulent and powerful iſland has been hitherto content to live. Huts however are not more uniform than palaces; and this which we were inſpecting was very far from one of the meaneſt, for it was divided into ſeveral apartments; and its inhabitants poſſeſſed ſuch property as a paſtoral poet might exalt into riches.

When we entered we found an old woman boiling goats-fleſh in a kettle. She ſpoke little Engliſh, but we had interpreters at hand; and ſhe was willing enough to diſplay her whole ſyſtem of œconomy. She has five children, of which none are yet gone from her. The eldeſt, a boy of thirteen, and her huſband, who is eighty years old, were at work in the wood. Her two next ſons were gone to Inverneſs to buy meal, by which oatmeal is always meant. Meal ſhe conſidered as expenſive food, and told us, that in ſpring when the goats gave milk, the children could live without it. She is miſtreſs of ſixty goats, and I ſaw many kids in an encloſure at the end of her houſe.

She

She had alſo ſome poultry. By the lake we ſaw a potatoe-garden, and a ſmall ſpot of ground on which ſtood four ſhucks, containing each twelve ſheaves of barley. She has all this from the labour of their own hands, and for what is neceſſary to be bought, her kids and her chickens are ſent to market.

With the true paſtoral hoſpitality, ſhe aſked us to ſit down and drink whiſky. She is religious, and though the kirk is four miles off, probably eight Engliſh miles, ſhe goes thither every Sunday. We gave her a ſhilling, and ſhe begged ſnuff; for ſnuff is the luxury of a Highland cottage.

Soon afterwards we came to the *General's Hut*, ſo called becauſe it was the temporary abode of Wade, while he ſuperintended the works upon the road. It is now a houſe of entertainment for paſſengers, and we found it not ill ſtocked with proviſions.

DR. JOHNSON.

SECT. CIV.

OF THE CLIMATE, SOIL, PRODUCE, AND ANIMALS OF THE HEBRIDES, PARTICULARLY OF SKY.

AS the Iſland of Sky lies in the fifty-ſeventh degree, the air cannot be ſuppoſed to have much warmth. The long continuance of the ſun above the horizon, does indeed ſometimes produce great heat in northern latitudes; but this can only happen in ſheltered places, where the atmoſphere is to a certain degree ſtagnant, and the ſame maſs of air continues to receive for many hours the rays of the ſun, and the vapours of the earth. Sky lies open on the weſt and north to a vaſt extent of ocean, and is cooled in the ſummer by perpetual ventilation, but by the ſame blaſts is kept warm in winter. Their weather is not pleaſing. Half the year is deluged with rain. From the autumnal to the vernal equinox, a dry day is hardly known, except when the ſhowers are ſuſpended by a tempeſt. Under ſuch ſkies can be expected no great exuberance of vegetation. Their winter overtakes their ſummer, and their harveſt lies upon the

the ground drenched with rain. The autumn ſtruggles hard to produce ſome of our early fruits. I gathered gooſeberries in September; but they were ſmall, and the huſk was thick.

Their winter is ſeldom ſuch as puts a full ſtop to the growth of plants, or reduces the cattle to live wholly on the ſurpluſage of the ſummer. In the year ſeventy-one they had a ſevere ſeaſon, remembered by the name of the Black Spring, from which the iſland has not yet recovered. The ſnow lay long upon the ground, a calamity hardly known before. Part of their cattle died for want, and part were unſeaſonably ſold to buy ſuſtenance for the owners.

The ſoil, as in other countries, has its diverſities. In ſome parts there is only a thin layer of earth ſpread upon a rock, which bears nothing but ſhort brown heath, and perhaps is not generally capable of any better product. There are many bogs or moſſes of greater or leſs extent, where the ſoil cannot be ſuppoſed to want depth, though it is too wet for the plough. But we did not obſerve in theſe any aquatic plants. The vallies and the mountains are alike darkened with heath. Some graſs, however, grows here and there, and ſome happier ſpots of earth are capable of tillage.

Their agriculture is laborious, and perhaps rather feeble than unſkilful. Their chief manure is ſea-weed, which, when they lay it to rot upon the field, gives them a better crop than thoſe of the Highlands. They heap ſea ſhells upon the dunghill, which in time moulder into a fertilizing ſubſtance. When they find a vein of earth where they cannot uſe it, they dig it up, and add it to the mould of a more commodious place. Their corn grounds often lie in ſuch intricacies among the craggs, that there is no room for the action of a team and plough. The ſoil is then turned up by manual labour, with an inſtrument called a crooked ſpade, of a form and weight which to me appeared very incommodious, and would perhaps be ſoon improved in a country where workmen could be eaſily found and eaſily paid. It has a narrow blade of iron fixed to a long and heavy piece of wood, which muſt have, about a foot and a half above the iron, a knee or flexure with the angle downwards. When the farmer encounters a ſtone, which is the great impediment of his operations, he drives the blade under it, and bringing the knee or angle to the ground, has in the long handle a very forcible lever.

According to the different mode of tillage, farms are diſtinguiſhed into *long land* and *ſhort land.*

land. Long land is that which affords room for a plough; and ſhort land is turned up by the ſpade.

The grain which they commit to the furrows thus tediouſly formed, is either oats or barley. They do not ſow barley without very copious manure, and then they expect from it ten for one, an increaſe equal to that of better countries; but the culture is ſo operoſe, that that they content themſelves commonly with oats; and who can relate without compaſſion, that after all their diligence, they are to expect only a triple increaſe? It is in vain to hope for plenty, when a third part of the harveſt muſt be reſerved for ſeed.

When their grain is arrived at the ſtate, which they muſt conſider as ripeneſs, they do not cut, but pull the barley. To the oats they apply the ſickle. Wheel carriages they have none, but make a frame of timber, which is drawn by one horſe, with the two points behind preſſing on the ground. On this they ſometimes drag home their ſheaves, but often convey them home in a kind of open panier, or frame of ſticks upon the horſe's back.

Of that which is obtained with ſo much difficulty, nothing ſurely ought to be waſted; yet their method of clearing their oats from the huſk is by parching them in the ſtraw. Thus with the genuine improvidence of ſavages, they deſtroy that

fodder for want of which their cattle may periſh. From this practice they have two petty conveniencies. They dry the grain, ſo that it is eaſily reduced to meal, and they eſcape the theft of the threſher. The taſte contracted from the fire by the oats, as by every other ſcorched ſubſtance, uſe muſt long ago have made grateful. The oats that are parched muſt be dried in a kiln.

Of their gardens I can judge only from their tables. I did not obſerve that the common greens were wanting, and ſuppoſe, that by chooſing an advantageous expoſition, they can raiſe all the more hardy eſculent plants. Of vegetable fragrance or beauty they are not yet ſtudious. Few vows are made to Flora in the Hebrides. They gather a little hay, but the graſs is mown late; and is ſo often almoſt dry and again very wet, before it is houſed, that it becomes a collection of withered ſtalks without taſte or fragrance. It muſt be eaten by cattle that have nothing elſe, but by moſt Engliſh farmers would be thrown away.

In the iſlands I have not heard that any ſubterraneous treaſures have been diſcovered, though where there are mountains there are commonly minerals. One of the rocks in *Col* has a black vein, imagined to conſiſt of the ore of lead; but it was never yet opened or eſſayed. In *Sky* a black

maſs

maſs was accidently picked up, and brought into the houſe of the owner of the land, who found himſelf ſtrongly inclined to think it a coal, but unhappily it did not burn in the chimney. Common ores would be here of no great value; for what requires to be ſeparated by fire, muſt, if it were found, be carried away in its mineral ſtate, here being no fuel for the ſmelting-houſe or forge. Perhaps by diligent ſearch in this world of ſtone, ſome valuable ſpecies of marble might be diſcovered. But neither philoſophical curioſity, nor commercial induſtry, have yet fixed their abode here, where the importunity of immediate want ſupplied but for the day, and craving on the morrow, has left little room for excurſive knowledge, or the pleaſing fancies of diſtant profit.

They have lately found a manufacture conſiderably lucrative. Their rocks abound with kelp, a ſea-plant, of which the aſhes are melted into glaſs. They burn kelp in great quantities, and then ſend it away in ſhips, which come regularly to purchaſe them. This new ſource of riches has raiſed the rents of many maritime farms; but the tenants pay, like all other tenants, the additional rent with great unwillingneſs; becauſe they conſider the profits of the kelp as the mere product of perſonal labour, to which the landlord contributes nothing.

However, as any man may be ſaid to give what he gives the power of gaining, he has certainly as much right to profit from the price of kelp, as of any thing elſe found or raiſed upon his ground.

This new trade has excited a long and eager litigation between Macdonald and Macleod, for a ledge of rocks, which, till the value of kelp was known, neither of them deſired the reputation of poſſeſſing.

The cattle of Sky are not ſo ſmall as is commonly believed. Since they have ſent their beeves in great numbers to ſouthern marts, they have probably taken more care of their breed. At ſtated times the annual growth of cattle is driven to a fair, by a general drover, and with the money, which he returns to the farmer, the rents are paid.

The price regularly expected, is from two to three pounds a head. There was once one ſold for five pounds. They go from the Iſlands very lean, and are not offered to the butcher till they have been long fatted in *Engliſh* paſtures.

Of their black cattle, ſome are without horns, called by the Scots *lumble cows*, as we call a bee an *humble bee*, that wants a ſting. Whether this difference be ſpecific, or accidental, though we enquired with great diligence, we could not be informed.

Their

Their horſes are, like their cows, of a moderate ſize. I had no difficulty to mount myſelf commodiouſly by the favour of the gentlemen.

The goat is the general inhabitant of the earth, complying with every difference of climate and ſoil. The goats of the Hebrides are like others; nor did I hear any thing of their ſheep to be particularly remarked.

In the penury of theſe malignant regions, nothing is left that can be converted to food. The goats and the ſheep are milked like the cows. A ſingle meal of a goat is a quart, and of a ſheep a pint. Such at leaſt was the account which I could extract from thoſe of whom I am not ſure that they ever had enquired.

The milk of goats is much thinner than that of cows, and that of ſheep is much thicker. Sheep's milk is never eaten before it is boiled. As it is thick, it muſt be very liberal of curd, and the people of St. Kilda form it into ſmall cheeſes.

The ſtags of the mountains are leſs than thoſe of our parks or foreſts, perhaps not bigger than our fallow-deer. Their fleſh has no rankneſs, nor is it inferior in flavour to our common veniſon. The roebuck I neither ſaw nor taſted. Theſe are not countries for a regular chaſe. The deer are not driven with horns and hounds. A ſportſ-

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man, with his gun in his hand, watches the animal, and when he has wounded him, traces him by the blood.

They have a race of brinded greyhounds, larger and ſtronger than thoſe with which we courſe hares, and thoſe are the only dogs uſed by them for the chaſe.

There are in Sky neither rats nor mice, but the weaſel is ſo frequent, that he is heard in houſes rattling behind cheſts or beds, as rats in England. They probably owe to his predominance that they have no other vermin; for ſince the great rat took poſſeſſion of this part of the world, ſcarce a ſhip can touch at any port, but ſome of his race are left behind.

DR. JOHNSON.

SECT. CV.

OF THE INHABITANTS AND HOUSES OF THE HEBRIDES.

THE inhabitants of *Sky*, and of the other iſlands which I have ſeen, are commonly of the middle

middle ſtature, with fewer among them very tall or very ſhort, than are ſeen in England, or perhaps as their numbers are ſmall, the chances of any deviation from the common meaſure are neceſſarily few. The talleſt men that I ſaw are among thoſe of higher rank. In regions of barrenneſs and ſcarcity, the human race is hindered in its growth by the ſame cauſes as other animals.

The ladies have as much beauty here as in other places; but bloom and ſoftneſs are not to be expected among the lower claſſes, whoſe faces are expoſed to the rudeneſs of the climate, and whoſe features are ſometimes contracted by want, and ſometimes hardened by the blaſts. Supreme beauty is ſeldom found in cottages or work-ſhops, even where no real hardſhips are ſuffered. To expand the human face to its full perfection, it ſeems neceſſary that the mind ſhould co-operate by placidneſs of content, or conſciouſneſs of ſuperiority.

Their ſtrength is proportionate to their ſize, but they are accuſtomed to run upon rough ground, and therefore can with great agility ſkip over the bog, or clamber the mountain. For a campaign in the waſtes of America, ſoldiers better qualified could not have been found. Having little work to do, they are not willing, nor perhaps able, to endure

endure a long continuance of manual labour, and are therefore conſidered as habitually idle.

Having never been ſupplied with theſe accommodations, which life, extenſively diverſified with trades affords, they ſupply their wants by very inſufficient ſhifts, and endure many inconveniencies which a little attention would eaſily relieve. I have ſeen a horſe carrying home the harveſt on a crate. Under his tail was a ſtick for a crupper, held at the two ends by twiſts of ſtraw. Hemp will grow in their iſlands, and therefore ropes may be had. If they wanted hemp, they might make better cordage of ruſhes, or perhaps of nettles, than of ſtraw.

Their method of life neither ſecures them perpetual health, nor expoſes them to any particular diſeaſes. There are phyſicians in the iſlands, who, I believe, all practiſe chirurgery, and all compound their own medicines.

It is generally ſuppoſed, that life is longer in places where there are few opportunities of luxury; but I found no inſtance here of extraordinary longevity. A cottager grows old over his oaten cakes, like a citizen at a turtle-feaſt. He is indeed ſeldom incommoded by corpulence. Poverty preſerves him from ſinking under the burden of himſelf, but he eſcapes no other injury of time.

Inſtances

Inſtances of long life are often related, which thoſe who hear them are more willing to credit than examine. To be told that any man has attained an hundred years, gives hope and comfort to him who ſtands trembling on the brink of his own climacteric.

Length of life is diſtributed impartially to very different modes of life in very different climates; and the mountains have no greater examples of age and health, than the low lands, where I was introduced to two ladies of high quality; one of whom, in her ninety-fourth year, preſided at her table with the full exerciſe of all her powers; and the other has attained her eighty-fourth, without any diminution of her vivacity, and with little reaſon to accuſe time of depredations on her beauty.

The habitations of men in the *Hebrides* may be diſtinguiſhed into huts and houſes. By a houſe, I mean a building with one ſtory over another; by a hut, a dwelling with only one floor. The Laird, who formerly lived in a caſtle, now lives in a houſe; ſometimes ſufficiently neat, but ſeldom very ſpacious or ſplendid. The tackſmen and the miniſters have commonly houſes. Wherever there is a houſe, the ſtranger finds a welcome.

Of the houſes little can be ſaid. They are ſmall, and by the neceſſity of accumulating ſtores, where

where there are ſo few opportunities of purchaſe, the rooms are very heterogeneouſly filled. With want of cleanlineſs it were ingratitude to reproach them. The ſervants having been bred upon the naked earth, think every floor clean; and the quick ſucceſſion of gueſts, perhaps not always over-elegant, does not allow much time for adjuſting their apartments.

Huts are of many gradations; from murky dens, to commodious dwellings.

The wall of a common hut is always built with mortar, by a ſkilful adaptation of looſe ſtones.—Sometimes, perhaps, a double wall of ſtones is raiſed, and the intermediate ſpace filled with earth. The air is thus completely excluded. Some walls are, I think, formed of turfs, held together by a wattle, or texture of twigs. Of the meaneſt huts, the firſt room is lighted by the entrance, and the ſecond by the ſmoke-hole. The fire is uſually made in the middle. But there are huts, or dwellings, of only one ſtory, inhabited by gentlemen, which have walls cemented with mortar, glaſs windows, and boarded floors. Of theſe all have chimneys, and ſome chimneys have grates.

The houſe and the furniture are not always nicely ſuited. We were driven once, by miſſing a paſſage, to the hut of a gentleman, where, after a very

very liberal ſupper, when I was conducted to my chamber, I found an elegant bed of Indian cotton, ſpread with fine ſheets. The accommodation was flattering; I undreſſed myſelf, and felt my feet in the mire. The bed ſtood upon the bare earth, which a long courſe of rain had ſoftened to a puddle.

The petty tenants, and labouring peaſants, live in miſerable cabins, which afford them little more than ſhelter from the ſtorms. The Boor of *Norway* is ſaid to make all his own utenſils. In the Hebrides, whatever might be their ingenuity, the want of wood leaves them no materials. They are probably content with ſuch accommodations as ſtones of different forms and ſizes can afford them.

Their food is not better than their lodging. They ſeldom taſte the fleſh of land animals; for here are no markets. What each man eats is from his own ſtock. The great effect of money is to break property into ſmall parts. In towns, he that has a ſhilling may have a piece of meat; but where there is no commerce, no man can eat mutton but by killing a ſheep.

Fiſh in fair weather they need not want; but, I believe, man never lives long on fiſh, but by conſtraint; he will rather feed upon roots and berries.

The

The only fuel of the iſlands is peat. Their wood is all conſumed, and coal they have not yet found. Peat is dug out of the marſhes, from the depth of one foot to that of ſix. That is accounted the beſt which is neareſt the ſurface. It appears to be a maſs of black earth held together by vegetable fibres. I know not whether the earth be bituminous, or whether the fibres be not the only combuſtible part; which, by heating the interpoſed earth red-hot, make a burning maſs. The heat is not very ſtrong nor laſting. The aſhes are yellowiſh, and in a large quantity. When they dig peat, they cut it into ſquare pieces, and pile it up to dry beſide the houſe In ſome places it has an offenſive ſmell. It is like wood charked for the ſmith. The common method of making peat fires, is by heaping it on the earth; but it burns well in grates, and in the beſt houſes is ſo uſed.

The common opinion is, that peat grows again where it has been cut; which, as it ſeems to be chiefly a vegetable ſubſtance, is not unlikely to be true, whether known or not to thoſe who relate it.

DR. JOHNSON.

SECT.

SECT. CVI.

OF THE HEBRIDIAN TABLES.

IT need not, I ſuppoſe, be mentioned, that in countries ſo little frequented as the Iſlands, there are no houſes where travellers are entertained for money. He that wanders about theſe wilds, either procures recommendations to thoſe, whoſe habitations lie near his way, or, when night and wearineſs come upon him, takes the chance of general hoſpitality. If he finds only a cottage, he can expect little more than ſhelter; for the cottagers have little more for themſelves. But if his good fortune brings him to the reſidence of a gentleman, he will be glad of a ſtorm to prolong his ſtay. There is, however, one inn by the ſea-ſide at Sconſor, in Sky, where the poſt-office is kept.

At the tables where a ſtranger is received, neither plenty nor delicacy is wanting. A tract of land ſo thinly inhabited, muſt have much wild-fowl; and I ſcarcely remember to have ſeen a dinner without them. The moor-game is every where to be had. That the ſea abounds with fiſh, need

need not be told; for it ſupplies a great part of Europe. The Iſle of *Sky*, has ſtags and roebucks, but no hares. They ſell very numerous droves of oxen yearly to England, and therefore cannot be ſuppoſed to want beef at home. Sheep and goats are in great numbers, and they have the common domeſtic fowls.

But as here is nothing to be bought, every family muſt kill its own meat, and roaſt part of it ſomewhat ſooner than Apicius would preſcribe. Every kind of fleſh is undoubtedly excelled by the variety and emulation of Engliſh markets; but that which is not beſt may be yet free from bad; and he that ſhall complain of his fare in the *Hebrides*, has improved his delicacy more than his manhood.

Their fowls are not like thoſe plumped for ſale by the poulterers of London, but they are as good as other places commonly afford, except that the geeſe, by feeding in the ſea, have univerſally a fiſhy rankneſs.

Theſe geeſe ſeem to be of a middle race, between the wild and domeſtic kinds. They are ſo tame as to own a home, and ſo wild as ſometimes to fly quite away.

Their native bread is made of oats, or barley. Of oatmeal they ſpread very thin cakes, coarſe and hard,

hard, to which unaccuſtomed palates are not eaſily reconciled. The barley cakes are thicker and ſofter. I began to eat them with unwillingneſs. The blackneſs of their colour raiſes ſome diſlike, but the taſte is not diſagreeable. In moſt houſes there is wheat-flour, with which we were ſure to be treated, if we ſtaid long enough to have it kneaded and baked. As neither yeaſt nor leaven are uſed among them, their bread of every kind is unfermented. They make only cakes, and never mould a loaf.

A man of the Hebrides, for of the women's diet I can give no account, as ſoon as he appears in the morning, ſwallows a glaſs of whiſky. Yet they are not a drunken race; at leaſt I never was preſent at much intemperance. But no man is ſo abſtemious as to refuſe the morning dram, which they call a *ſkalk*.

The word *whiſky* ſignifies water, and is applied by way of eminence to *ſtrong water*, or diſtilled liquor. The ſpirit drunk in the North is drawn from barley. I never taſted it, except once for experiment at the inn in *Inverary*, when I thought it preferable to any *Engliſh* malt brandy. It was ſtrong, but not pungent, and was free from the empyreumatic taſte or ſmell. What was the proceſs I had no opportunity of enquiring, nor do I

wiſh to improve the art of making poiſon pleaſant.

Not long after the dram, may be expected the breakfaſt, a meal in which the Scots, whether of the lowlands or mountains, muſt be confeſſed to excel us. The tea and coffee are accompanied not only with butter, but with honey, conſerves, and marmalades. If an epicure could remove by a wiſh, in queſt of ſenſual gratifications, wherever he had ſupped, he would breakfaſt in Scotland.

In the iſlands however, they do what I found it not very eaſy to endure. They pollute the tea-table by plates piled with large ſlices of Cheſhire cheeſe, which mingles its leſs grateful odours with the fragrance of the tea.

Where many queſtions are to be aſked, ſome will be omitted. I forgot to enquire how they were ſupplied with ſo much exotic luxury. Perhaps the French may bring them wine for wool, and the Dutch give them tea and coffee at the fiſhing ſeaſon, in exchange for freſh proviſion. Their trade is unconſtrained. They pay no cuſtoms, for there is no officer to demand them. Whatever therefore is made dear only by impoſt, is obtained here at an eaſy rate.

A dinner in the Weſtern Iſlands, differs very little from a dinner in *England*, except that in the place

place of tarts, there are always ſet different preparations of milk. This part of their diet will admit ſome improvement. Though they have milk, and eggs, and ſugar, few of them know how to compound them in a cuſtard. Their gardens afford them no great variety, but they have always ſome vegetables on the table. Potatoes at leaſt are never wanting, which, though they have not known them long, are now one of the principal parts of their food. They are not of the mealy, but the viſcous kind.

Their more elaborate cookery, or made diſhes, an Engliſhman at the firſt taſte is not likely to approve; but the culinary compoſitions of every country are often ſuch as become grateful to other nations only by degrees; though I have read a French author, who, in the elation of his heart, ſays, that French cookery pleaſes all foreigners, but foreign cookery never ſatisfies a Frenchman.

Their ſuppers are, like their dinners, various and plentiful. The table is always covered with elegant linen. Their plates for common uſe are often of that kind of manufacture which is called cream coloured, or queen's ware. They uſe ſilver on all occaſions where it is common in *England*, nor did I ever find the ſpoon of horn but in one houſe.

The

The knives are not often either very bright or very ſharp. They are indeed inſtruments, of which the Highlanders have not been long acquainted with the general uſe. They were not regularly laid on the table, before the prohibition of arms and the change of dreſs. Thirty years ago the Highlander wore his knife as a companion to his dirk or dagger, and when the company ſat down to meat, the men who had knives, cut the fleſh into ſmall pieces for the women, who with their fingers conveyed it to their mouths.

There was perhaps never any change of national manners ſo quick, ſo great, and ſo general, as that which has operated in the Highlands, by the laſt conqueſt, and the ſubſequent laws. We came thither too late to ſee what we expected, a people of peculiar appearance, and a ſyſtem of antiquated life. The clans retain little now of their original character; their ferocity of temper is ſoftened, their military ardour is extinguiſhed, their dignity of independence is depreſſed, their contempt of government ſubdued, and their reverence for their chiefs abated. Of what they had before the late conqueſt of their country, there remain only their language and their poverty. Their language is attacked on every ſide.—Schools are erected, in which Engliſh only is taught,

taught; and there were lately ſome who thought it reaſonable to refuſe them a verſion of the holy ſcriptures, that they might have no monument of their mother-tongue.

That their poverty is gradually abated, cannot be mentioned among the unpleaſing conſequences of ſubjection. They are now acquainted with money, and the poſſibility of gain will by degrees make them induſtrious. Such is the effect of the late regulations, that a longer journey than to the Highlands muſt be taken by him, whoſe curioſity pants for ſavage virtues and barbarous grandeur.

DR. JOHNSON.

END OF VOL. II.

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